



Kensington & Chelsea NEWS

LWN

LONDON WEEKLY NEWS GROUP

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Thursday, November 26th 2015

Muslim leaders call on community 'to do more'

'WE HAVE SPECIAL ROLE TO PLAY IN TACKLING EXTREMIST VIEWS'

BY GEOFF BAKER

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AS floral tributes to the victims of the Paris terror attacks continue to mount outside the French Embassy in Knightsbridge, London's Muslim leaders have called on the Islam community to do more to prevent the "cancer" of radicalisation – angrily claiming "not enough has been done".

In the aftermath of the terror attacks in Paris that left 130 people dead, senior Muslim figures have counselled: "Any form of extremism or terrorism is against the teachings of Islam".

The call for fellow Muslims to take increased action against extremism is being led by Sadiq Khan, the Tooting MP and Labour's candidate to be the next Mayor of London.

His call came as the three leading figures of Kensington and Chelsea – MP Victoria Borwick, the Mayor Robert Freeman and royal borough council Leader Nick Paget-Brown – gave their condolences at the French Embassy and ordered that the Tricolor be flown at half-mast at the Town Hall.

Councillor Paget-Brown: "These were small but heartfelt ways of expressing solidarity with our French residents and with France, our friend and ally. From adversity comes strength."

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■ FLOWERS in memory of those who lost their lives in the Paris terrorist attacks are laid on the steps of the French Embassy in Knightsbridge, guarded by an armed policeman.

Photo by RICHARD AUSTIN

INSIDE



Mayor leads tributes to Kensington's VC hero – see page 10

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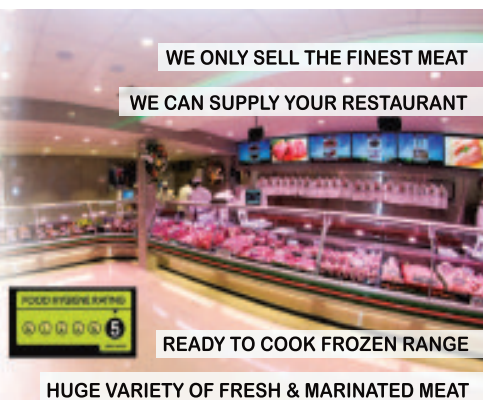


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MAYOR EMPHASISES CAPITAL'S GLOBAL EDUCATIONAL APPEAL

London calling the world's students

THE Mayor of London Boris Johnson is proposing new measures that he believes will help the city retain its position as the education capital of the world and arrest the sharp decline in the number of Indian students who come to London to study.

London attracts 100,000 international students every year, more than any other city in the world. These students contribute £3 billion to the capital's economy and help to support 37,000 jobs, according to research from the mayor's promotional agency, London and Partners.

India is the third-largest international student market in London after China and America. However, the number of Indian students studying at London's higher education institutions has more than halved over the last five years. In 2009/10 there were 9,925 Indian students in the capital, while in 2013/14 there were only 4,790. This comes at a time when the demand for higher education is growing due to India's economic growth



FROM THE
MAYOR'S OFFICE

and the expansion of its middle class.

The mayor wants London and the UK to attract and retain talent from around the world. Along with senior academics from some of the capital's leading higher education institutions he has put forward to Government two policy options on work opportunities following graduation which would be attractive to students from India and other countries. They are:

■ A Commonwealth work visa for up to two years. This would be with India, in the first instance, but could be extended to other Commonwealth countries, if successful. This complements the mayor's belief that the UK needs stronger visa relationship with its Commonwealth partners.

■ A work visa for graduates in science, technology, engineering and maths (STEM) for up to two years. Although not restricted to nationality, this would be attractive to Indian students for whom STEM degrees are popular. It would also help to meet a critical skills shortage in the UK in areas such as life sciences, engineering and technology.

Mr Johnson said: "London is indisputably the education capital of the world, with more top performing universities than any other city globally. However, current restrictions on overseas students are putting off the brightest Indian minds from coming to study in the capital and it is crazy that we should be losing India's top

talent and global leaders of the future to countries like Australia and the United States. I hope we can work with London's universities and Government to address this and make sure the capital remains the leading destination for international students."

The mayor raised the issue of visas during a trade mission to India in 2012 and wrote to Home Secretary Theresa May and Vince Cable, then Secretary of State for Business, Innovation and Skills, urging that new measures should be introduced to better protect genuine students who wish to study in the UK. This included setting up an Educational Exports Commission, to promote London's universities abroad and help to secure the future of one of its greatest exports. In response, the Government set up a similar body, called the International Education Council to advocate London and the UK as a destination for international students. In July 2013, the Government also published its international education strategy

which aimed to grow the number of international students by 15 to 20 per cent to 2018.

Gordon Innes, chief executive of London and Partners, said: "London has the greatest concentration of top class universities of any city in the world and we also welcome the highest number of international students. International students bring a wealth of benefits to the city and, at a time when we are facing increasing competition from many other countries, we should make sure we are doing all we can to encourage young people to study here and experience everything London has to offer."

Professor David Gann, Vice-President of Imperial College London and the Higher Education Representative on the London Enterprise Panel, said: "Indian students contribute immeasurably to the intellectual, cultural and economic vitality of London. When they come to the capital, great things happen – for the UK, India and the world."



The London Weekly News Group Westminster & Pimlico News

(Established 1857)

Kensington & Chelsea News

(Established 1857 & 1869)

Fulham Chronicle

(Established 1888)

Hammersmith Chronicle

(Established 2015)

Shepherd's Bush Chronicle

(Established 2015)

London Weekly News

(Established 2014)

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Rock stars with heart!

BY GEOFF BAKER

geoff@londonweeklynews.co.uk

MUSIC legend and Chelsea resident Bryan Adams has lent a helping hand to a local primary school, with a donation from his charity, The Bryan Adams Foundation, which has allowed the school to create a striking new outdoor playground.

Until recently, the youngest pupils at Ashburnham Community School in World's End were regularly unable to use their outdoor area as any poor weather would leave the surface unsuitable for safe play.

But now, thanks to support from their famous neighbour's foundation, nursery pupils have a bright, colourful and environmentally friendly, all-weather play space.

Designs were produced by John Southall Architects and approved by the school's head and governors. Work began at the end of July and the new playground was finished by the time the children returned to school in September.

Ashburnham's Head Teacher, Bella Street, added: "This very generous donation by The Bryan Adams Foundation means that our youngest children now have a bigger, brighter and most importantly safer

place in which to play, exercise and learn. We couldn't ask for a better neighbour."

Bryan Adams said: "This area desperately needed attention to be a safe place for all the little toddlers to muck about outside. The Bryan Adams Foundation was delighted to kick-start this initiative for all the children in the World's End Estate, and hopefully we'll do more in the coming years."

Meanwhile, at the Chelsea and Westminster Hospital, rock star Rick Wakeman and Westminster singer/songwriter, David Capri, presented a cheque donation on behalf of Chelsea Lodge to the Music in Hospitals charity, which provides live music for hospital patients.

Rick and David met young patients in the children's ward at a performance given by local musician Paul Kerr.

David said: "This is great and worthwhile cause. I was told that some of the children who enjoyed our little concert had never been home. This really shocked me as it hadn't crossed my mind that these children are so ill that they have spent their life in hospital."

"It brought home to me how important it is for us to play as many concerts as possible in wards like these where children really don't have many opportunities to see live music, and have some relief from their illness and suffering."



■ FOR THE KIDS: From the left - David Capri, Rick Wakeman, Amy Robertson (Community and Events Co-ordinator for MIH) and Paul Kerr at the cheque handover at the Chelsea & Westminster Hospital.

Radicalism - 'the cancer eating at heart of society'

FROM PAGE 1

According to the Kensington Muslim Community Centre, there are around 25,000 Muslims now living in the royal borough, worshipping at nine local mosques.

Mr Khan said they and all other Muslims in the capital can be more effective than any other Londoners in leading the fight against extremism.

He said: "To defeat the extremists we simply must do more to stop radicalisation in Britain. It doesn't just affect us in these awful moments of violence and terror. It is a cancer eating at the heart of our society - all the time."

"And if we're honest, not enough has been done to root it out. And in this week of all weeks, that makes me angry. Angry because for too long we have buried our heads in the sand."

Mr Khan added: "I believe that British Muslims have a special role to play in tackling extremism. A special role not because we are more responsible than others - as some have wrongly claimed - but because we can be more effective at tackling extremism than anyone else."

"Our role must be to challenge extremist views wherever we encounter them."

"Extremism isn't a theoretical risk. Most British Muslims have come across someone with extremist views at some point."

Mr Khan, who said "there is no contradiction to being British and Muslim", revealed that he feared his own teenage daughters could be at risk of radicalisation.

"I worry that they, or their friends, could be groomed by extremists on the internet, or tricked into running off to Syria like other children have been," he said.

Mr Khan's call came after the Muslim Council of Britain took out a full-page advert in the Daily Telegraph, denouncing the Paris attacks as "barbaric".

The advert read: "With one voice, British Muslims condemn the Paris attacks unreservedly."

The advert, which was signed by the names of hundreds of Muslim groups, continued: "We offer our condolences to the victims and their families. The barbaric acts of Daesh have no sanction in the religion of Islam, which forbids terrorism and the targeting of innocents."

"We re-affirm our commitment to the values of pluralism and tolerances as our best defence against those who seek to create division and fear."

"As Muslims, Britons and Europeans, we must stand together to make sure they do not succeed."

Farooq Aftab, a leading Muslim lawyer and

spokesman for the Muslim Youth Association, has also backed the stand against the extremists.

He said: "Any form of extremism or terrorism is against the teachings of Islam. These extremists want to divide communities, what we have to do is show solidarity and that we are together."

Mr Aftab added: "We offer our heartfelt sympathies and condolences to the nation of France, its people and its Government after this heinous terrorist attack."

The French Ambassador, Sylvie Bermann, has spoken of how she and members of London's French community, estimated to number up to 300,000 in the capital, have been touched and given strength by messages of support and the hundreds of floral tributes left at the French Embassy in Knightsbridge.

"On behalf of the French government and everyone at the French Embassy, I wish to convey my sincerest thanks to all those who have expressed sympathy and solidarity with France in the days following the tragic events of 13th November."

"I thank everyone who has called, written or left flowers or candles outside the Embassy, and everyone who observed the minute's silence."

"I have been greatly moved by your countless displays of support. Every one of them is a gesture of friendship which strengthens us in the face of attempts to weaken and divide us."

"Once again the British people have shown we can count on them in times of crisis."

Since the atrocities in Paris, the hearts of London have gone out to the capital's sister city. Landmarks including Wembley Stadium, Trafalgar Square, the Eye, Tower Bridge and City Hall have been illuminated in red, white and blue light and the Duke of Duchess of Cambridge have joined the many expressing their condolences at the Embassy.

The Mayor of London, Boris Johnson, said: "We regard Paris as our sister city, a place for which we have deep reserves of love and admiration and respect. We are two capitals united in our values - democratic freedom, openness and tolerance."

"The people who launched the attacks have no such values. They wish to undermine the things we hold most precious. They want to set neighbour against neighbour. They want to spread fear."

"But they will not succeed. As President Hollande has rightly said, they must and will be defeated. We stand ready in London to do everything in our power - to do whatever it takes - to assist in a struggle that embraces us all."

Nick Paget-Brown writes on London's bond with Paris on page 4.

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■ **VROOM WITH A PHEW:** Kensington sports car dealership London Morgan has been named the best in Britain for the second year running. The luxury car garage and sales room in Astwood Mews has won the Morgan Motor Company's 'Dealer of the Year' award again due to what judges said was its dedication to excellence. The dealership, housed in a former Georgian horse-stables mews, reports that most of its sales – 56 per cent – are to foreign nationals keen to own a traditional British car. Dealer principal Anthony Barrell said: "London Morgan's success is driven by its ability to constantly innovate in all aspects of the service it provides to its customers, from delivering beautiful hand-built vehicles to the continued high quality care we provide. The Morgan Motor Company continues to capture the imagination of our customers, and London Morgan is delighted to be a part of that continued journey."

Bear essential for a Portobello Christmas

PADDINGTON Bear features in a Christmas card designed to celebrate Portobello and Golborne Market's 150th Christmas.

Schoolgirl Miki Keric's winning design was chosen by traders in a competition which attracted over 390 entries.

Ten-year-old Miki, a pupil from St Barnabas and St Philip's Church of England Primary School, celebrated her win by switching on the market's Christmas tree lights earlier this month.

Meanwhile, residents who shop at the market in the run up

to Christmas have a chance of winning fabulous prizes if they take part in the market's Christmas Shopping Passport Promotion.

To take part shoppers must collect five tokens when they shop at stalls and stores which feature the Shopping Passport Promotion posters.

For more information and a list of businesses taking part visit www.rbkc.gov.uk/ourmarkets or just ask at the store or stall that you see displaying the poster.

A series of festive events will be held at the market over the

coming weeks to entertain shoppers.

On Thursday, December 3 at Portobello Green there will be live music, mulled wine, goodie bags and discounts from 2.30pm until 9pm. On Saturday, December 5, Small Business Saturday, the Salvation Army brass band will perform outside the hall at 205 Portobello Road.

The Westway Trust will hold a Christmas Festival on Wednesday 9 and Thursday 10 December from 5pm until 9pm under the market canopy. This will include a Santa's grotto, live music and children's activities.

NEWS FROM NICK...

From adversity comes strength, writes Cllr Nick Paget-Brown, Leader of the Royal Borough of Kensington and Chelsea



At one with our great friends and rivals

Britain's relationship with France runs very deep.

The two of us have a profound historical connection, a close family resemblance, but also, let's face it, a long-standing rivalry.

But actually I don't think that rivalry amounts to very much these days: the odd spat in Brussels perhaps, or the odd boo at Twickenham. Fact is - with so many French people living in Britain and so many Britons living in France, we have simply moved "ever closer", and in the real, rather than the EU sense.

Why even me, a mustard corduroy wearing Tory, is utterly unembarrassed to reveal that I simply love France. The French coun-

tryside; the sight of a TGV hurtling through it; a glass of wine at a cafe in a small town; any executive saloon by Citroen, old or new; the entire contents of boulangeries; French cinema; French chanson and French health care.

All of these things and many more besides seem to me to make it indisputable that France is a wonderful country.

And not only is it wonderful, it is a historically indispensable nation too, not least because, together with us on this side of the Channel, France is one of the principal authors of the Enlightenment, or the Siècle des Lumières as they will insist on calling it.

Without Britain or France the Enlightenment might not have happened at all, and without the ideas that it ushered

in, of liberty, tolerance and reason, of empiricism, science and progress, the world would be dramatically much the poorer.

In the Royal Borough we have long had our own large French community centred around South Kensington. On the first Tuesday following the atrocities, I went to the French Embassy with our Mayor, Robert Freeman and the MP for Kensington, Victoria Borwick, to sign the book of condolence and we also flew the tricolour at the town hall; two small but heartfelt ways of expressing solidarity with our French residents, with our friend and ally, France and of course with Paris which in the words of Maurice Chevalier "sera toujours Paris! La plus belle ville du monde..."



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To contact the Leader of the Council, Cllr Nick Paget-Brown, email theleader@rbkc.gov.uk

'Third runway will lead to gridlock in London'



BY GEOFF BAKER

geoff@londonweeklynews.co.uk

TRANSPORT for London chiefs have warned that a third runway at Heathrow will bring the capital to a complete standstill every day – causing traffic congestion on a scale never seen before.

They also fear that huge traffic jams caused by millions of extra trips to the airport will result in massive pollution, far worsening London's dirty air that currently kills around 9,500 people a year.

Heathrow currently deals with 73 million passengers a year but a report by the Airports Commission estimates that with a third runway by 2030 the number of passengers will rocket by 71 per cent to 125 million.

Estimates by the commission reveal that a third runway will lead to 110,000 more trips on public transport and 41,000 more car trips a day.

But TfL says this is an under-estimate and that there will be 147,000 more public transport journeys and 63,000 more road trips every day – so overloading the roads and rail

and Tube networks that TfL warns they will grind to a halt.

TfL claims that the commission's report does not take into account the thousands of extra lorries taking freight to and from the airport, which will make congestion and pollution even worse, especially on the Bath Road leading to Heathrow.

"Thousands of additional freight and extra activity generated from business growth around Heathrow have not been fully included in the Airports Commission's analysis," said TfL. "The Bath Road would have the highest NO2 concentrations in London. This would delay compliance with EU air quality limits."

TfL chiefs have voiced their "major concerns" to the London Assembly Transport Committee.

They told the committee that the Airports Commission has not assessed the impact of a fully utilised third runway at Heathrow Airport or taken into account how recent employment forecasts will increase demand even further.

Besides causing extra trips to and from the airport by passengers, the expansion of a third runway would mean an extra 38,000 airport staff would be

travelling to work each day.

TfL told the committee that it would cost between £15 and £20 billion to improve the transport infrastructure needed to get all passengers to and from Heathrow Airport, if a third runway is built there.

TfL's Director of Strategy Richard De Cini warned: "The simple word would be congestion – congestion on the road network, congestion on the rail network of a scale that we haven't seen. The level of crowding you would have on those rail corridors into central London would be some of the worst that we currently see in London and that's based on 2030 demand, the year of opening. So it's a level of crowding and congestion that we believe would start to impact quite significantly on the whole performance of the transport network across west and south west London."

Valerie Shawcross, Chair of the Transport Committee said: "Before the Government makes its decision on airport expansion, there are big questions to be answered around what transport infrastructure is needed and who will pay for it. We can't allow a bigger Heathrow to clog up London's roads and public transport network."

Transport bosses issue congestion warning over expansion plans

From battlefield to auction room

SIX ancient helmets and 10 suits of armour – all from Italy and Germany – an important collection of American firearms plus a copper saucepan rescued from Sebastopol in 1855 are among the array of objects offered in Thomas Del Mar Ltd's auction of Antique Arms, Armour and Militaria at 25 Blythe Road, West London on Wednesday, December 2.

Thomas Del Mar Ltd – which was founded 10 years ago – holds two sales each year. The forthcoming sale comprises over 500 lots from the bronze age to the early 20th century, with pieces from ancient Greece, Persia, Europe's middle ages and renaissance, tribal African and Australia and the American civil war.

From an important private collection, the helmets include an Italic bronze helmet dating from the 4th to 1st century BC which is estimated at £10,000 to £15,000, while a Greek bronze example from the 5th century BC is expected to fetch £8,000 to £12,000 and another Greek example from the 6th to 5th centuries BC is also estimated at £8,000 to £12,000.

The 10 suits of armour from Italy and Germany are being sold by order of the trustees of the John Woodman Higgins Armory Collection to benefit its ongoing study and display at the Worcester Art Museum. Over the past three years, Thomas Del Mar has sold £2.5million of items on behalf of the Woodman Higgins Collection. With estimates up to £20,000 and dating from as early as the 15th century, examples include a composite North Italian cap-a-pie armour with etched decoration dating from the late 16th century which is estimated at £15,000 to £20,000 and a composite North Italian field armour with later etched decoration dating from mid-to late 16th century which is expected to fetch £12,000 to £18,000.

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LONDON WIDE

Dance night to remember star

DANCER Jonathan Ollivier, who was killed hours before he was due to appear in a show in London this summer, is to be saluted in a memorial dance night.

Ollivier, who was 38, died in a motorbike accident in August, shortly before he was going to perform in the final show of Matthew Bourne's *The Car Man* at Sadler's Wells theatre. Ollivier played the lead, Luca, in rotation with two other dancers.

The memorial event will take place on January 18 at Sadler's Wells Theatre. Bourne, who called Ollivier "one of the most charismatic and powerful dancers of his generation," will present the show. It will include extracts from Bourne's all-male *Swan Lake* (with Ollivier as The Swan), *The Car Man* and *Sleeping Beauty*.

All income from ticket sales will be placed in charitable trust funds for his two sons, Lucas, six, and Isaac, 12 months. For more information and to buy tickets visit sadlerswells.com



■ REMEMBERED: Jonathan Ollivier as Luca performing with Ashley Straw as Lana during *The Car Man*.

Drivers get 'extra eye' to help spot cyclists and pedestrians

BY LWN REPORTER
editorial@londonweeklynews.co.uk

THE Mayor of London has welcomed the roll-out by a UK company of cutting edge technology to help improve road safety.

Amey, one of the UK's largest public and regulated services providers, will be equipping 200 refuse collection lorries with a system called Cycle Safety Shield, which helps drivers to be more aware of vulnerable road users.

Cycle Safety Shield, which has been developed by the Israeli firm Mobileye, uses cameras and sensors to help drivers avoid collisions by detecting and warning of the presence of cyclists, pedestrians and motorcyclists. Mobileye technology incorporates strategically placed multi-vision 'smart' sensors, which act as a driver's third eye and monitor blind spots around the vehicle. The system provides drivers with real-time visual and audible alerts as the risk of a collision increases.

The announcement, which came during mayor Boris Johnson's trade mission to Israel earlier this month, complements wider efforts to improve road safety in London.

This includes building new infrastructure that protects road users and working with partners to implement new ideas. The mayor is particularly

keen to see the development of these kinds of detection technologies, and Mobileye Shield+TM is one of a number being developed by different manufacturers.

The Safer Lorry Scheme was introduced on September 1 this year – and reported in the London Weekly News – to ensure that only HGVs with vital safety mirrors and sideguards are allowed on London's roads. London is also pioneering Pedestrian SCOOT – the world's first pedestrian crossing sensors – at junctions to help make it easier and safer for people to cross the road.

The roll-out of Cycle Safety Shield by Amey on its vehicles follows a six-month trial in Ealing last year, which showed that 15 potentially serious collisions were avoided. Ealing has since committed to fitting the technology to all of its lorry fleet.

Mr Johnson said: "It's fantastic to see that cutting edge technology, such as Cycle Safety Shield developed by Mobileye in Israel, is being utilised to help make London's roads safer.

"Amey's commitment to fitting Cycle Safety Shield to its fleet of trucks is to be applauded and I hope that

other big companies follow their lead.

"As we work towards strengthening our Safer Lorry Scheme we're giving real consideration to making sensor technology like this a requirement for HGVs operating in London.

"I've said that improving the direct vision of drivers is one of our key priorities going forward, but high tech solutions being developed by Mobileye and others are sure to play a big part in helping us to deliver future improvements to road safety."

Ziv Aviram Levy, Mobileye's chief executive and co-founder, said: "Mobileye technology complements the Mayor of London's mission to make roads in the nation's capital safer for vulnerable road users. We are very pleased Amey has chosen our technology to help them promote road safety. It is currently being piloted across the globe in the US, Germany, China, Japan and Australia. However, this fleet-wide roll-out positions London as global pioneers in the adoption of lifesaving advanced driver assistance technology."

Mel Ewell, chief

executive of Amey, said: "Amey is committed to ensuring public and employee safety, and we're always looking at new ways to continue delivering our services as safely as possible. Working with our suppliers to roll out the Cycle Safety Shield system across our fleet, is another example of where we have gone above and beyond to help improve road safety in London and across the communities in which we work."

Jon Guest, Director of Safety Shield Systems, said: "Amey started to install the Cycle Safety Shield following an extensive trial carried out by Ealing Council. Amey has now taken the decision to install the system across their fleet to help protect vulnerable road users and Safety Shield Systems are proud to be working with them on this project."

Councillor Bassam Mahfouz, cabinet member for transport and environment for Ealing, said: "The Cycle Safety Shield is life-saving technology which is proving to be a game-changer in the field of road safety.

"With lorries being responsible for two-thirds of cycling deaths in London, this innovative piece of kit, installed on Ealing vehicles, makes such a positive difference and I am delighted and honoured that this has been recognised with awards from Brake and across Europe."



■ 'FANTASTIC': Boris Johnson greeted new road safety measures.

Increase in new office buildings

CONSTRUCTION work in central London is at its highest level since the financial crisis as the technology industry drives an economic boom in the city, new data suggests.

New office buildings in the centre of the capital are going up at a rate 18 per cent higher than six months ago, according to a report by Deloitte Real Estate. There are now 77 office schemes under construction covering 11.1m sq ft – the most since 2008.

A collection of new financial sector skyscrapers are among those keeping construction companies busy. These include 100 Bishopsgate, which will house the Royal Bank of Canada, while Principal Place is to be the new UK base for Amazon.

The *Guardian* reported: "The surge in developments will add to fears that the London economy is becoming further detached from the rest of the country, but the increase is in part because projects were scrapped or put on hold after the financial crisis owing to funding problems.

"Some are now being revived, such as 100 Bishopsgate, where plans have been in place for years, while the shelving of projects has also led to a shortfall of new office space in the West End and City."

There has also been a 24 per cent rise in the number of sites being demolished and prepared for construction in the last six months.

Tax bill threat to homeless charity

A LONDON charity for the homeless has been hit with an unexpected £1m VAT bill, putting its future at risk.

Caritas Anchor House, in Canning Town, East London, established by the Catholic church more than half a century ago, was issued with the tax demand after HMRC redesignated its status.

In a letter to *The Guardian*, the charity's supporters – including John Bird, the founder of the *Big Issue*, Peter Smith, the Archbishop of Southwark, and former Tory cabinet ministers Ann Widdecombe and Chris Patten – have appealed to the Government to consider an exemption.

The threat to the charity represents a potential "tragedy for all the people this facility has supported, is supporting and would support in the future," the letter says. "It could deprive the local community of a hub which provides education and help with personal rehabilitation. Loss of such facilities will place intolerable pressure on local and national government services that will ultimately incur greater cost than the VAT HMRC is seeking to claim."

Artists' studios scheme rejected

COUNCILLORS in Southwark, South London, have rejected a plan to transform a multi-storey car park into 800 low-cost artists' studios.

The council has instead opted for a rival proposal for the building in Peckham from a Mayfair-based property developer.

Some of the most influential cultural figures in the UK, including the directors of the Tate Modern and the Serpentine Gallery, backed the Bold Home project, which would have provided much-needed cheap studios for artists at a time when such spaces are dwindling.

Southwark council opted for Pop Community Ltd's application, which will only offer 50 artists' studios alongside "multi-use event spaces, pop-up retail and cafe/bar".

Campaign for public funds to revive famous cemetery

LONDONERS are being asked to support a £6 million appeal to restore a beautiful Victorian burial site where more than 200,000 people rest.

Brompton cemetery is the last resting place of suffragette campaigner Emmeline Pankhurst and several war heroes who were decorated for conspicuous acts of bravery on the battlefield.

The funding appeal was launched on the eve of Armistice Day earlier this month because 12 Victoria Cross holders and 2,625 former Chelsea Pension-

ers are also among the 205,000 people buried there. Part of the cemetery, with 289 First World War and 79 Second World War Commonwealth service personnel, is maintained by the Commonwealth War Graves Commission.

Although the gentle decay and lush growth are a romantic vision that has attracted many film-makers, many of the buildings and structures are in urgent need of conservation work, including the domed central chapel, colonnades and the catacombs below them.

The niches did not sell as well as the Victorian private developers had hoped, and the cemetery, which opened in 1840, quickly slipped into financial difficulties.

The cemetery is unique in having been run for the past 60 years by the Royal Parks, which took it over almost a century after the Government bought it from the private shareholders.

Brompton was one of the "magnificent seven" giant cemeteries built in what were then London's outer suburbs, when the medieval churchyards

were full and seen as a health hazard. It was one of the earliest garden cemeteries, designed as a place for the public to stroll.

The Royal Parks Foundation, which raises funds for the parks, hopes to raise £500,000 from the public and acquire most of the rest from Heritage Lottery grants.

Sara Lom, chief executive of the foundation, said that without the conservation work, "we will lose vital connections to the past and the stories of the people buried there".

Dramatic results for businesses that love to save energy

BY LWN REPORTER
editorial@londonweeklynews.co.uk

A SUPERMARKET giant, top-ranking Premier League football team and the world's first carbon-neutral theatre have taken home awards in this year's Business Energy Challenge, a competition run by Mayor of London Boris Johnson to encourage businesses to slash their energy usage.

The 110 forward-thinking London businesses who entered this year's competition delivered a collective 188,000 tonnes in carbon dioxide emission reductions by reducing their energy usage by an amount that would be enough to power over 24,000 homes.

Ten London businesses won the gold award for achieving the highest carbon energy intensity, including iconic venues owned by Arsenal Football Club and ExCeL London.

Arsenal made a series of energy-friendly upgrades across their Emirates Stadium ground, office block and youth academy, including installing light sensors and updating a computer-based management system which controls and monitors mechanical and electrical equipment.

ExCeL London has introduced more sophisticated movement sensors in its car parks for lighting and is using boiler controls to reduce high water temperatures – a change which on its own reduced yearly energy consumption by more than a third.

Supermarket chain Sainsbury's took home the award in the new category of 'Climber of the decade', which recognises businesses that have made the largest percentage reduction in the amount of carbon they use per square metre since 2005-06.

Thanks to the environmentally-friendly technologies used to retrofit their properties, such

as LED lighting and solar panels, the company has achieved a dramatic reduction in its energy usage over the past decade despite increasing their square footage across the UK by 51 per cent.

Mr Johnson said: "London's businesses continue to prove that economic prosperity and green business practices can go hand in hand, making our city a leading example for others to follow."

"This year's entrants have reduced their carbon emissions by the staggering amount of nearly 200,000 tonnes, improving the environment not only for our city but also the country, and indeed the wider world."

"In a few days I will be travelling to the UN climate conference in Paris and I am very proud that I will go with such great stories to tell about what our businesses are doing to play their part."

Eco-friendly Arcola Theatre in Hackney won a new category for micro-businesses. As part of their aim to be the world's first carbon-neutral theatre, the Arcola sources its electricity through a 100 per cent renewably sourced contract with company Ecotricity, and produces its heating through a sustainable system built around a biomass boiler which uses locally-sourced waste wood.

Around 75 per cent of London's carbon dioxide emissions come from



■ SITTING PRETTY: The Arcola in Hackney is the world's first carbon-neutral theatre.

buildings, and 43 per cent come from workplaces.

The Business Energy Challenge was conceived with the global cities organisation C40 as a way of encouraging the city's corporate sector to step up to the challenge and do their part in achieving the mayor's overall targets for emissions reduction of 60 per cent by the year 2025.

The data collected from last year's award entries has been used by University College London to inform the development of London specific and more up to date energy benchmarks for office and retail buildings.

Businesses submit energy usage data and are assessed on the carbon intensity per square metre of their properties, so both medium and large businesses are put on an equal footing. Gold, silver and bronze awards are distributed to the businesses most successful in reducing their carbon intensity.

The Business Energy Challenge is part of the mayor's wider initiative to reduce London's emissions. His RE:FIT scheme has seen over 260 public buildings in London retrofitted to reduce carbon dioxide emissions, saving over 29,000 tonnes of carbon dioxide per annum.

Mr Johnson's RE:NEW scheme for residential public sector buildings has also helped to improve over 111,500 London homes, saving around 30,300 tonnes of carbon dioxide a year.

■ CHAMPIONS: Arsenal Football Club made a series of energy-friendly upgrades across their Emirates Stadium.

Squatters accused of being misguided

SQUATTERS who have taken over redundant council offices in Camden have been accused of being naïve and misguided.

Activists moved into the council's derelict housing and social services office last Saturday. The building is at the centre of a residents' protest led by *Downton Abbey* TV actor Jim Carter. The squatters say they want to turn the five-storey building, which has been empty for three years, into "London's biggest community centre".

Carter, who plays butler Carson in the ITV drama, is leading the Save West Hampstead Stop the Blocks! campaign against a scheme for 163 homes and wants to return the 25,000 sq ft building to community use.

The squatters have asked the council for a lease to stay in the building. But Theo Blackwell, Camden council's finance chief, said the group was "naïve and misguided".

He said: "They want to talk about housing, but this is a development that would provide much needed housing, half of it affordable, that will benefit the community immensely." A spokesman for the Save West Hampstead campaign said it would be happy to meet the squatters and discuss their plans.

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Westminster & Pimlico NEWS pick up points			
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Kensington & Chelsea NEWS pick up points			
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North Kensington Library	108 Ladbroke Grove	Kensington	W11 1PZ
Brompton Library	210 Old Brompton Road	London	SW5 0BS
The Tabernacle, Notting Hill	35 Powis Square	Notting Hill	W11 2AY
Chelsea Library	Chelsea Old Town Hall	Chelsea	SW3 5EZ
Chelsea Sports Centre	Chelsea Manor Street	Chelsea	SW3 5PL

Fulham Chronicle pick up points			
Fulham Library	596 Fulham Road		SW6 5NX

Hammersmith CHRONICLE pick up points			
The Grove Neighbourhood Centre	7 Bradmore Park Road	Hammersmith	W6 0DT



Firm fined after worker struck electricity cable

A MAN sustained serious, life-changing injuries after striking a 415 volt electricity cable during work to refurbish a pharmacy in central London.

The labourer struck the underground cable while digging a trench during work to lay a new sewage pipe.

After suffering burns to his body and throat, the 41-year-old man is unable to work and is now registered disabled.

The Health and Safety Executive investigated the incident in Edgware Road, in July 2013, and prosecuted the company in control of the work, Medpharma Ltd, after deciding it contravened health and safety laws.

At Southwark Crown Court on November 6 the company Medpharma Ltd was fined £60,000 and ordered to pay £40,000 in costs after being found guilty at an earlier trial of breaching the Construction (Design and Management) Regulations 2007.

Speaking after the hearing, HSE inspector Stephon Baker Holmes said: "This case follows a terrible incident that left a man seriously injured, with consequences that he is still living with two years later."

"Where digging work is liable to disturb underground services it is vital to take suitable and sufficient steps to control the risks. Guidance on these steps is freely available online."

Detectives say police budget cuts damaging officers' mental health

BY GEOFF BAKER

geoff@londonweeklynews.co.uk

THE mental health of detectives in the Met is suffering because of pressures caused by cuts to the police budget, it is claimed.

More than eight in ten detectives have said that austerity measures are having an effect on their wellbeing, results of a new survey have shown.

The National Detectives' Survey, carried out by the Police Federation, found that 83 per cent of officers felt that service cuts had damaged their mental health.

Fears are growing that the mental health of detectives could deteriorate further as the Met faces more cuts – that could reduce the force by 5,000 to 8,000 officers – massively increasing the workload on officers.

Survey respondents blamed cuts for increased stress levels, tiredness due to managing increased demands, increases in travel and lower pay and more hours.

And the majority felt they were only

able to offer a second-rate service to victims and witnesses, according to the survey.

Out of 5,557 responses, only around a third of officers – 32 per cent – felt able to provide the service they would like to victims 'most' or 'all of time', with more than half – 68 per cent – stating they could provide this 'never' or 'only sometimes'.

Just under a third – 27 per cent – felt able to provide this service to witnesses 'most' or 'all of time', and 73 per cent stated 'never' or 'sometimes'. In both areas detectives cited workloads as the main issue.

The federation is concerned that 95 per cent of detectives said they felt the service to the public has deteriorated.

Martin Plummer, chair of the Police Federation's National Detectives Forum, who commissioned the work, said: "Detectives do an amazing job, often working long hours on lengthy investigations that can be incredibly complex."

"They have a key role in liaising with both victims and witnesses and it is disturbing that they feel they cannot

give the service they would like, stating cuts in the service as a factor. This is also having an impact on their stress levels, health and personal life.

"Officers are being pushed to the limit and this survey shows that the increased pressure is taking its toll on them and potentially on the successful outcome of investigations. We feel this is a completely unacceptable state of affairs."

One experienced detective told the survey: "The increase in workload and subsequent demand and home contact have taken my mental health to a limit where I have seriously considered taking time off due to ill health..."

"I find myself completely distracted whilst at home with thoughts of work, resulting in not engaging in family life and taking any true 'down time'."

Another said: "I get anxious about coming to work sometimes and get constant migraines due to stress."

He added: "Most times I come to work and suffer through fear of falling further behind with work or spend my rest days feeling ill and drained due to work."

Action call over unreported sex attacks on men

WORRIED London charity bosses are calling for action after releasing figures claiming less than four per cent of sexual assaults on men are reported by victims.

A report called Silent Suffering has flagged up several concerns, particularly that men felt less able than women to tell the police that they had been victims of sexual assault and rape.

The report put this down "a multitude of social, procedural and emotional barriers" which prevent male victims from coming forward and being referred to support services.

The London-based charity Survivors UK, which helps male victims of sex abuse, is alarmed by the figures. It had its funding cut by mayor Boris Johnson's office in March. Now Mr Johnson is being urged to tackle the issue.

Conservative London Assembly member Kemi Badenoch wants him to do more to reverse the under-reporting of the crime. Mrs Badenoch has called for Mr Johnson to host a summit and develop a strategy to specifically assist male victims of sexual offences.

One proposal put forward in the Silent Suffering report is that the mayor should lobby the government to amend the Sexual Offences Act 2003 to include male victims, as has been done in the US.

At present, a woman cannot in law "rape" a man owing to the definition of the crime.

The Metropolitan Police said that it was aware that rape remained "significantly under-reported... not least by male victims" and said that it was working with relevant support agencies to increase reporting.

The Met recorded the highest number of assaults in the UK between 2010 and 2014. But the force stresses that it has officers trained to help male victims of sexual assault.

A spokesman for the mayor's office for policing and crime said it was planning to hold a conference to improve services for all victims, including men, of sexual assault and rape.

Date to fight Parkinson's

FUNDS raised at a Christmas Concert in Paddington next month will go towards improving the lives of the 127,000 people living with Parkinson's across the UK.

The event is on Wednesday, December 9, at St James's, Sussex Gardens, London, W2 3UD. It starts at 7pm. Well-known faces and charity supporters include BBC newsreader and concert host Jane Hill. She will be joined by actress and Parkinson's UK President Jane Asher and Radio 4 presenter Dame Jenni Murray who will both perform festive readings.

Musical treats include the Wessex Male Choir, Mezzo Soprano Harriet Kirk and Soprano Zoë Silkstone.

Tickets cost £25 for adults, while children aged 12 and under go free – with one free child ticket per accompanying adult. For a group booking of eight or more, tickets cost £16 per person. Included in the ticket price is a mulled wine and mince pie reception.

To find out more, you can visit www.parkinsons.org.uk/content/christmas-concert-london

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■ DRESS REVIVAL: One of London's most popular vintage fashion fairs took place at Chelsea Old Town Hall on Sunday, November 22. The Frock Me vintage fair proved ideal for festive shopping, said organisers. More than 50 traders attended from all over the UK and Europe.



■ IT'S CHRISTMAS! One of the world's favourite toy shops staged the annual grand unveiling of its Christmas window with some special helpers. The cast of Elf joined Santa and sang a rousing number from the new West End show. Despite the driving rain, the merry band, which includes former Girls Aloud star, Kimberley Walsh, West End heart throb Ben Forster and actor Joe McGann gave some enthusiastic Christmas cheer before the ribbon was cut at the famous Regents Street shop.



NEWS FROM KENSINGTON

LWN

UNDER THE WESTWAY

The great outdoors is on our doorstep

Angela McConville, Chief Executive of Westway Trust, celebrates the opening of a 'Forest School' under the Westway – supporting children's understanding of themselves and the natural environment

A WHILE ago I wrote in my column about the Corner Nine Arts Project, which aims to showcase memories of the past four decades of childcare at the Maxilla Children's Centre.

This week I want to share some complementary news about our commitment to children's education and the evolution of childcare and nursery provision under the Westway.

Westway Trust has recently reached an agreement with the Golborne and Maxilla Federation to use the private garden area formerly enjoyed by the Maxilla children – an enchanting secret garden dotted with trees – as a 'Forest School'.

A Forest School is an innovative approach to outdoor learning, which has its origins in Scandinavia. It provides children with a valuable opportunity to learn about the natural environment through play.

During these positive outdoor experiences, children aged two to five years old learn how to handle risk and to use their own problem-solving skills. They learn how to cooperate with others, build their self-esteem and develop their physical and social skills.

Pupils learn about and understand the great outdoors – and how fun this can be even in our densely populated urban environment.

The New Economics Foundation, an independent think tank, evaluated two schools in Wales to highlight how they can provide learning opportunities for



■ **OUTSIDE ENDEAVOURS:** Forest School principles have been successful elsewhere in Europe.

children who typically do not do as well in the classroom. It found evidence that Forest Schools increase confidence, awareness of consequences, and language development, as well as developing enthusiasm for participation, physical stamina and an interest in the natural environment.

In its research paper, NEF argued that Forest Schools should be more widely available to a greater number of schools and that new woodland areas should be created near schools.

Initially, the school will be used by three to five year olds who attend Golborne and Maxilla. From January, the Federation will be extending an offer to all primary schools with early years provision and other stand-alone nurseries in North Kensington.

Each participating school will have the opportunity to explore the garden and create their own educational offer.

Schools can choose activities to suit their needs. Shelter building, tool skills and environmental art can all be de-

signed around children's interests. Children can simple explore the site or try something more adventurous such as wildlife investigations, tracking, and imaginary worlds, planting and growing vegetables or scientific nature investigations. Volunteers from Westway Trust's Pop-up Creche will be involved in the Forest School project to enhance and broaden their urban and environmental experiences.

I am delighted that the Forest School is launching under the Westway. Not

only are we making a small contribution to continuing educational opportunities for some of the youngest members of our community, but we are celebrating a distinctive space and urban environment that makes the Westway such an interesting place to be.

And while the Forest School is getting set up and ready to go for the little ones in our community, new life is about to be breathed into the buildings which once housed the Maxilla Children's Centre. They are being converted into studios for 20 professional visual artists, who have recently graduated from Chelsea College of Arts.

This collaboration between the visual arts organisation and educational charity ACAVA –

Association for Cultural Advancement through Visual Art – and Westway Trust is a great opportunity for artists setting out on their careers and also for the local community to see exciting new work being created and to engage in arts workshops and projects.

ACAFA, develops and delivers a wide range of educational initiatives, aiming to promote the development of visual skills in relation to school and university curricula and beyond, to provide work experience and promote career development.

There is a long and valued history of providing education and enrichment here. It was one of the community's priorities at the very earliest conversations about what should happen on the 23 acres and it remains a core pillar of our work today.

From the two-year-olds at the Forest School, through the teenagers at supplementary schools to the senior members of society who attend adult learning classes, it ensures that lifelong learning is alive and well under the Westway.

Win a meal for two at the Royal China restaurant

THE *London Weekly News* has teamed up with the Royal China to offer one lucky reader a complimentary meal for two at their premier restaurant in Fulham.

The winner will be treated to an exquisite meal in the West London restaurant and can choose from an extensive menu including a full range of highly delectable dim sum.

You and a guest can enjoy some delectable dishes just by entering our competition.

All you have to do is send an email with ROYAL CHINA as the subject heading to competitions@londonweeklynews.co.uk along with your name, age, address, and phone number. Terms and conditions apply.

Term and conditions

- Only one entry per person
- Each prize consists of a complementary meal for two at the Royal China, 805 Fulham Road, London, including food and drink (including alcohol) up to the value of £70. The prize must be taken from Monday to Thursday.
- There is no cash alternative to the prize stated, and the prizes are non-transferable.
- Prize consists only of the elements expressly detailed above; no other elements or expenses such as travel, car parking, meals, beverages or spending money are included. All such expenses are the sole responsibility of the winner plus guest.
- The promoter's decision is final and binding. No correspondence

will be entered into. Unless otherwise stated the promoter is Luxe Public Relations.

■ The prize detailed is for that Restaurant only and not transferable.

■ Any additional items you may wish to purchase must be paid for before departure.

■ Please also check your travel arrangements in advance as neither the promoter nor The London Weekly News can be held responsible for any delays due to travel disruption.

■ By entering this competition you are agreeing to allow your details to be shared with the promoter in order for them to contact the winners.

■ Closing date for entries: December 8

Nominate your good neighbour

DO you have a neighbour who helps you with your shopping, pops round for a cup of tea or helps you keep up to date with technology?

The Volunteer Centre Kensington & Chelsea has opened the nominations for its first ever Good Neighbour Award – especially designed to recognise and celebrate the unsung heroes who live in our community.

Everybody needs good neighbours and they would love to hear from you about yours.

This is the perfect opportunity to say thank you to the people who go out of their way to help without expecting anything in return.

Please help the volunteer centre to thank these people who do the little things that mean an awful lot. To nominate your good neighbours email Irina.jarrett-thorpe@voluntarywork.org.uk with the name and the story of your good neighbour.

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■ **KENSINGTON REMEMBERS:** Civic leaders and senior military figures honour local hero Richard Bell Davies.
Pictures: Richard Austin



Borough salutes airman's war heroics, 100 years on

BY LWN REPORTER
editorial@londonweeklynews.co.uk

THE Royal Borough of Kensington and Chelsea stopped for a poignant ceremony last week – taking time to reflect on a local First World War hero, Vice Admiral Richard Bell Davies, on the centenary of one of his greatest wartime actions.

The ceremony was held at Sloane Square War Memorial and attracted passers-by who looked on as a special paving stone was unveiled to commemorate the exploits of Richard Bell Davies VC CB DSO AFC at Ferrijik Junction, Bulgaria, on November 19, 1915, for which he received a Victoria Cross.

Guests included the Mayor of the Royal Borough of Kensington and Chelsea, Cllr Robert Freeman; the Leader of the Council, Cllr Nick Paget-Brown; honorary aldermen and councillors; commanding officers from units of the Armed Forces which have the Freedom of the royal borough; senior officers from the Royal Navy and Army; Sergeant Johnson Beharry, VC; Lord Cadogan and Sir Michael Craig-Cooper (Freemen of the Royal Borough); local resident and Honorary Vice Admiral, Lord Sterling; representatives of the Fleet Air Arm Officers' Association and the Royal British Legion.

Speaking about the commemoration, the Mayor said: "It was a great honour to take part in this ceremony – Richard Bell Davies was a remarkable man.

"Not only did he display the greatest skill and gallantry in the action, which led to the award of his Victoria Cross, but he then continued his distinguished naval career, rising to the rank of Vice Admiral.



■ **HERO REMEMBERED:** Civic dignitaries and military personnel gather to salute Kensington's VC recipient Richard Bell Davies.

The royal borough is enormously proud of its links with Richard Bell Davies and I am pleased that the paving stone unveiled this morning will provide a lasting reminder of his service and of his valour."

Rear Admiral Graeme Mackay, Director Carrier Strike, said: "It was

a great honour to mark the centenary of the heroism of Squadron Commander Richard Bell Davies. His selfless act of bravery in rescuing a fellow pilot behind enemy lines remains an inspiration to us all in the Fleet Air Arm. He laid the foundations for carrier avi-

ation, which continues today with the introduction of HMS Queen Elizabeth and HMS Prince of Wales into service."

Baroness Williams of Trafford, Parliamentary Under Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government, said: "The stone laid in honour of Vice Admiral Richard Bell Davies provides a lasting legacy to his bravery and will enable residents to gain a greater understanding of how a local hero played a key role in the history of the First World War.

"He carried out astonishing acts of valour in service of his country and is only the second ever naval airman to be awarded the Victoria Cross. We all owe a huge debt to those brave heroes like Richard Bell Davies. They are just as inspirational now as they were a century ago."

The ceremony formed part of a nationwide campaign to honour Victoria Cross recipients from the First World War by laying commemorative paving stones in their birthplace on the centenary of their awards.

A total of 628 Victoria Crosses were awarded during the First World War; 482 to UK- and Ireland-born recipients; 145 to servicemen who fought for Britain but were born overseas; and of the 85 London-born recipients, eight were born in Kensington and Chelsea. And to date the Council has honoured two of those local heroes: George Dorrell and Richard Bell Davies.

Over the next few years there are plans to do the same for the remaining six: Humphrey Firman, Frank Wearne, Julian Gribble, Victor Crutchley, Roland Bourke and George Cartwright.

For further information, see www.rbkc.gov.uk/vw/victoriacrossawards



■ **CENTENARY SALUTE:** The borough of Kensington was united to hail its First World War hero, extraordinary airman Richard Bell Davies.
Pictures: Richard Austin



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LONDON WIDE

LWN



‘Scrumping for Lumleys’ a threat to new bridge’s core purpose

THE Garden Bridge is set to bear Absolutely Fabulous new fruit – growing Britain’s most exclusive apples which are tipped to be known as “Lumleys”.

The apples, named after Garden Bridge originator Joanna Lumley to stand alongside Cox’s, Braeburns and Russets, will be grown with other fruit when the bridge opens in the summer of 2018.

The first apples could be available soon after and the Garden Bridge team is now to discuss whether the limited run of the fruit could be sold for charity as a highly-prized special edition at a store like Fortnam & Mason or Selfridges.

However, gathering the exclusive apples could face a threat – from scrumping. Pundits believe that among the seven million people expected to use the Garden Bridge each year there are certain to be a number who want to go “scrumping for a Lumley”.

Plans to grow fruit in the garden on the bridge were revealed last week.

“It is going to be a very traditional British garden and we have plans to grow wild strawberries and plant apple trees,” said a spokeswoman.

The garden designer, Kew-trained Dan Pearson, is aiming to have 700 species of plants of the bridge, many of which will be British species. The plan is to have 100,000 plants and 270 trees growing on the bridge.

Apple bobbing

“But it’s not going to be an allotment,” said the spokeswoman.

Although the Garden Bridge team has no plans as yet to sell the apples and strawberries, they admit that they will have to devise some way to distribute the fruit at harvest time. They won’t be in vast quantities so there are no plans currently to sell any produce. But this is something we can look at,” said the spokeswoman.

A standard-sized apple tree can bear up 200 lbs of fruit a year. With an average of four apples to a pound and possibly 10 trees on the 366-metre bridge, in a good year the garden could bear up to 8,000 Lumleys, insufficient for commercial production but enough for a limited-edition premium product.

Possibilities for distribution of the Lumleys could include:

■ Selling the exclusive apples for London charities through high-end stores.

■ Making toffee apples for children in the capital’s hospitals.

■ Presenting Lumleys to The Queen and the Mayor of London as a rare gift for visiting dignitaries and heads of State.

■ A huge apple-bobbing competition for children at Halloween.

■ A highly-limited run of Britain’s most-exclusive apple juice or apple-infused vodka sold at a premium price for charity.

“The garden will be an enchanted space in the middle of the busy city. It will feature an abundance of plants, trees and shrubs indigenous to the UK, Northern Europe and other parts of the world,” said the spokeswoman.

■ **LET’S GROW:** Kensington and Chelsea’s Mayor, Councillor Robert Freeman, was the VIP guest at St Mary’s Catholic Primary School in East Row last week – to officially open the school’s stunning new garden. Despite some showers, the launch of the new garden went well. The mayor was said to be ‘most impressed’ with the children’s efforts at planting of vegetables and herbs. Parents and residents are invited to have a look at the pupils’ hard work. The school is looking for volunteers every Tuesdays if you are interested to help them with their gardening activities.

Pictures: Richard Austin



Community interest has been displaced

Here is my letter of complaint sent to Westway Trust chief executive Angela McConville regarding her decision not to attend the public meeting held by local group Westway 23 on November 11, concerning the future of the Westway. It also reflects wider concerns held by a large number of people in the community about the Westway Trust

DEAR Angela McConville, I am the son and market stall assistant of Laura Del Rivo, who has been a Portobello market trader since before the Westway was built.

Last week my partner and I took our two pre-school children to Westway 23's public meeting concerning the future of the Westway. There were 300 members of the community local to the Westway there, including elderly residents, councillors, shop owners, market traders, school teachers and other families like our own. We had expected that representatives of Westway Trust would be there and feel extremely let down that none were.

We have seen the communications that you sent to Westway 23 members and read your press release in the *Kensington & Chelsea News*.

The way you describe Westway 23, and worry about your level of "comfort"; your claim that because members have described "fighting" for the community you literally fear for your safety; we do not recognise the picture you paint of well-known community champions in the organisation of Westway 23 or the good-natured timbre of the meeting.

You have written of wanting a "positive" dialogue – we can only assume you mean a dialogue in which we, the community and Westway 23 agree with your directorship of this resource. If your directorship of this resource is defensible, then you must defend it to us. Your decision not to come, not to answer the many questions local people have about the way you manage leases of some successful and loved projects in the space such as the stables or flyover; not to explain decisions about the balance of retail in the space or the opening of it to corporations which threaten our local and independent retailers; not to engage with the problems as well as opportunities that the Westway brings, speaks volumes about the degree to which you concern yourselves with the actual community affected by your decisions.

We have described the meeting on November 11th as "good-natured". Attendees were clearly keen to hear about what has been going on with the Westway and listened with some

dismay to the testimonies of previous leaseholders and those who had knowledge, and previous experience of dealing with the Trust. It should be to your great regret that no one could speak in defence of the Westway Trust; my family and I, and everyone I spoke to afterwards, would have been open to hearing what you had to say.

As a result, there was some anger expressed about the way the community's interest has been systematically displaced from the central concern of the Trust and its activities, as well as grave and sometimes heated concern about the future of well-loved local projects.

But fundamentally, the meeting was of an engaged, intelligent, connected community; it was absolutely heartening to behold. Several speakers called to attention the positivity of the room which contained people of all ages and backgrounds.

It is astounding, and deeply concerning, that you would withdraw from this meeting. We regard this decision as misguided at best and cynical at worst. Your judgment on this matter calls into question the legitimacy of your management of anything on behalf of this community.

We invite your board individually to reflect on the degree to which you can be efficacious in communicating with, working for or representing those who you truly "fear". We would underscore that there were several

families at the meeting, which was led by known local champions who have the community's trust. If you fear these people then you have no business managing their resources: the expertise of the panel on November 11 is testament to the community's eminent capacity for self-governance.

If we are to proceed with a constructive and positive dialogue, you really must start to look on the energy and commitment that Westway 23 and the wider community bring as the gifts that they are. We look forward to hearing how you intend to initiate a constructive and positive relationship with Westway 23 and the wider community.

Jacob Rety
Via email

Trust should engage better

An open letter to Westway Trust chief executive Angela McConville

I ATTENDED a public meeting in The Tabernacle, Powis Square, on the evening of Wednesday, November 11.

I have been concerned about, and interested in Westway Trust's plans for their 'Portobello Village' development since the first day of the 'public consultation period' in March, and was very much looking forward to at least hearing your and other directors' perspectives, first hand, as panel members at this event.

I was extremely disappointed to hear, on the day of the meeting, that you had recently cancelled plans to attend, and had advised other directors to do the same.

I was also most perplexed to hear that your expressed reason was concern for the "safety of your staff". It has since struck me how easy it can be to cast aspersions on others by suggesting behaviour for which they have no record or inclination. We are the people who wish to meet you, who are extending an invitation to you, as opposed to the other way around – perhaps this does not sit well with you.

In the audience and on the remaining panel were octogenarians and small children, those with OBEs, local councillors and parliamentary candidates, those who have lived in the area for their whole lives and others who have moved more recently from elsewhere; we represented a cross section of our community in every respect you might think of. I am curious as to which of us you thought might cause you physical harm.

The meeting went ahead despite your absence, but it would have been informative to have had your input. The Westway Trust clearly cites the needs of the local community as their primary focus for grant applications, and have won a great deal of financial support on this basis, so it concerns me deeply that you do not appear to have a desire to directly engage with these very people.

Katie Segal
Via email

Homes a drop in the ocean

I'M delighted to see that Transport for London (TfL) has announced that it will be making land available for the building of some 10,000 new homes over the next 10 years.

We all know that demand for housing is outstripping supply, so announcements to build more homes are welcome. However, 10,000 new homes is just a drop in the ocean and while TfL tells us it will release more land for development over time, we need hundreds of thousands of homes being built now, not over the next decade.

There are stations which could have homes built above them, old yards which could be better used and unused buildings turned into homes. I urge TfL to work with developers to build more homes as quickly as possible.

Syed Kamal
MEP for London
Leader of the European Conservatives and Reformists Group

Candlelight concert date

TO kick start the Christmas season, Prostate Cancer UK are holding their annual Carols by Candlelight concert on December 2.

St Paul's Church, Knightsbridge, will be hosting an evening of carols, mince pies and mulled wine to get us in the festive spirit. Throughout the evening there will be readings from personalities such as Dame Diana Rigg DBE, Larry Lamb, Patrick Robinson and Mark Lawrenson. Doors open at 7pm and the concert gets under way at 7.30pm. St Paul's Church is in Wilton Place, Knightsbridge, London SW1X 8SH. Ticket prices are £25 for downstairs seating and £15 for balcony seating. Complimentary mince pies and mulled wine will be served.

Leena Patel
Prostate Cancer UK, The Counting House, Tooley Street, London

Leena Patel
Prostate Cancer UK, The Counting House, Tooley Street, London

Crossrail confusion

YOUR correspondent Mr D Lloyd in your November 19 issue describes the November 3rd Chelsea Town Hall meeting as a farce.

What was truly farcical was not the meeting itself – though it had its absurd aspects – but Mr Lloyd's analysis of it. Is he really unaware that the meeting was organised by the royal borough's council and that the people directing the microphones and "selecting" individuals to ask questions or to comment were council employees? The council, of course, is actively promoting this proposed mass transit station on the King's Road in spite of mass opposition from its constituents, and – shamelessly in my view – using its ratepayers' money to do so instead of being impartial as it should be.

I can agree with Mr Lloyd

that the BBC man's performance (paid for, as he acknowledged himself, by us ratepayers) was, to put it mildly, unimpressive. A more experienced and smarter moderator would have asked in turn for hands to be raised first by those wanting to ask a question or make a comment supporting, and then (after taking one question or comment) asking for hands to be raised by those wanting to do the same opposing the proposed station. Supporters and opponents could then have been chosen and spoken in turn. Some kind of useful debate might then have ensued, except that supporters other than the many TfL and council people in the room – their presence probably contributed to some 200 would-be attendee residents being locked out of the hall – were clearly so tiny in number that there wouldn't have been enough to keep a discussion going. The moderator also closed the meeting half an hour early when there were many people still wanting to speak. One wonders why.

Let me grudgingly give the council a little credit for having given some time and space to the No Crossrail in Chelsea campaign at the meeting; grudgingly because, again shamelessly in my view, they advertised the meeting as a chance "to hear the case for" (my emphasis) a station here. They also described Chris Lenon as "Chair of the No Crossrail campaign," despite the campaign and its leadership having expressed clear support for Crossrail2 as a concept and as a whole, and having objected only to the proposed hugely costly, and in transport needs terms unnecessary, diversion via an unwanted station on Kings Road. Last but not least they allocated twice as much time to the "pro" case as to the "anti" case and specifically refused a request by the "anti" case to be allowed to speak last.

As for "short-termism," councillor Coleridge in his presentation appeared to think that he has a monopoly on knowing what is good for Chelsea in the longer term. Most residents simply don't agree with him. We all have younger generations coming after us and try to think more of their needs than of our own. A council which had a better understanding of the utter unaffordability of Chelsea for most people, especially the coming generations, and some ideas of what to do about that, would be a good start!

Cllr Coleridge – and Mr Lloyd – also seem to be unaware of the difference between on the one hand a middle-distance mass transit system (think RER in Paris) designed primarily for commuters, and on the other a local (as in London Tube or Paris Metro) urban underground system. Mr Coleridge even went so far as to ask campaigners to stop using the totally valid term mass transit.

Finally, Mr Lloyd in his other comments seems not even to have listened to, let alone begun to understand, the overwhelmingly persuasive and fact-based "anti" case put so calmly and rationally by Mr Lenon on November 3. If you, Mr Editor, would care to put Mr Lloyd in touch with me, I can go through it with him point by point and try to open his eyes to the reality of what is being proposed.

Mr G Robertson
Chelsea

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WEEKLY News

ISSUE 52

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Thursday, November 26th 2015

On Her Majesty's Special Service



Elite forces beef up royal security cover
Geoff Baker reports

ROYAL security at Buckingham Palace and Kensington Palace is being given SAS back-up – with ace teams of the crack special forces just five minutes away by helicopter.

In the wake of the attacks on Paris, teams of the Special Air Service are on 24-hour standby at RAF Northolt, Ruislip. Although 15 miles

away from the palaces, the lethal squads of counter-terrorism troops could be landed in the grounds by small specialist MH-6 choppers within minutes of an alert.

Each MH-6 can carry six men armed with Heckler and Koch MP5K submachine guns, capable of a rate of fire of 900 rounds per minute.

TURN TO PAGE 2

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ROYAL LONDON

Crack force on standby to protect Queen's household

SAS drafted in to bolster royal safety

FROM PAGE 13

The SAS back-up, with the sanction of shoot to kill, is being added to the Met's 400-strong SO14 royal protection command following a review of security ordered by Commissioner Sir Bernard Hogan-Howe after the atrocities in Paris.

In addition, SAS marksmen in plain clothes under which the MP5K can be easily-concealed, are to be on call to shadow all members of the royal family on public engagements – like The Queen attending a General Synod service at Westminster Abbey this week.

The strengthening of the royal protection command will bolster an already highly-sophisticated ring of steel and electronic surveillance which surrounds the royals.

Besides the deterrent of Guardsmen with bayonets fixed and live ammunition available to them, and select SO14 ex-

perts armed with SFA3 sub-machine guns and Glock17 pistols, Buckingham Palace bodyguard commanders have developed a very high-tech system of cover from their £1.6 million secret station secreted in the grounds.

The palace police post is completely hidden from public view, built beneath a large mound of earth and grass and screened behind trees. From the communications control room there, police are in constant touch with every royal residence and they track every royal vehicle, which are fitted with special homing devices so that protection officers know where the royals are at all times.

It is understood that, as a further strengthening of royal security, the palace communications post is now working with covert experts from the Special Reconnaissance Regiment, the highly-secret counter-terrorism force which falls under SAS command. Last week units of the



■ **SAFE HANDS:** The Special Air Service will help protect the royal family.

SRR, which is believed to be based alongside the SAS in Hereford, were drafted into London on the Prime Minister's orders.

Royal expert Brian Hoey, the former BBC newsmen and author of the definitive guide to

the inner workings of the palace, *At Home With The Queen*, says security planning between SO14 and the SAS has been long-established.

“The police post at the palace also keeps detailed plans of

every room in every building occupied by royalty, and these are duplicated at the SAS headquarters," reveals Mr Hoey in the book.

“So in the event of a terrorist attack, rescuers know the layout

before they go in. Because of this, the police and the SAS must be informed when any furniture is moved around."

As part of other security measures, Prince Charles is known to be equipped with a James Bond-style alarm watch which immediately alerts his protection team in the event of any incident. The Prince of Wales has used the alarm watch at least once, in 1999 during a perceived threat when he was swimming in the Mediterranean.

It has been reported that Prince William, who had special forces training when he was seconded to the Special Boat Squadron in 2008, also wears a security device similar to his father's.

Mr Hoey has disclosed that the tight royal security extends right to the door of The Queen's bedroom, where an armed SO19 officer is on sentry all night, with explicit orders to open fire in the event of any threat to Her Majesty or the wider royal household.

“A uniformed sergeant has the task of sitting outside The Queen’s bedroom all night, wearing slippers instead of regulation boots, to avoid waking her when he walks up and down the corridor,” he reveals in *At Home With The Queen*.

"The sergeant is an experienced police officer and his instructions are to 'shoot anything that moves that shouldn't move'."

WHERE TO SEE A ROYAL THIS WEEK

FULL details of future and recent events in the ever-busy diaries of the many members of The Royal Family are available from the official website www.royal.gov.uk but here's the London schedule for the week ahead for Where To See A Royal.

November 24

■ The Queen and the Duke of Edinburgh will attend a Service at Westminster Abbey on the occasion of the Inauguration of the Tenth General Synod of the Church of England followed by the Inauguration Ceremony in Church House.

■ **The Duke of Edinburgh**, as President Emeritus, World Wide Fund for Nature International, will present The Duke of Edinburgh Conservation Medal and hold a lunch at Buckingham Palace.

■ **The Prince of Wales**, as Patron, Step Up To Serve, will celebrate the second anniversary of the #iwill campaign at Wayra Academy, Shropshire House, Capper St.

The Princess Royal, as Patron, National Institute of Adult Continuing Education, will open the Youth Employment Convention 2015 at the Mermaid, Puddle Dock, Blackfriars.

■ **The Princess Royal**, as President, Racing Welfare, will attend a Reception at The Royal Mews, Buckingham Palace

■ **The Princess Royal**, as President, the English-Speak-



■ **ROYAL DUTIES:** The Queen and Duke of Edinburgh.

ing Union of the Commonwealth, will attend a Public Speaking Event to celebrate the 2015 UK-China Year of Cultural Exchange at Dartmouth House, Charles Street W1.

November 25

■ **The Princess Royal**, as Chancellor, University of London, will attend Foundation Day at the University of London, Senate House WC1.

■ **The Princess Royal** will visit Capel Manor College, Bullsmoor Lane, Enfield.

■ **The Duke of Gloucester**, as

President, St Bartholomew's Hospital, will attend a Reception in support of Barts Charity at St Bartholomew's Hospital, West Smithfield.

■ **The Duke of Gloucester**, as President, British Expertise, will chair the panel of judges for the British Expertise International Awards at Ten Grosvenor Gardens SW1.

■ **The Duchess of Gloucester**, as Chief Patron, Hope For Youth Northern Ireland, will attend a Charity Swim and Dinner at the Porchester Hall, Queensway W2.

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Will drama's Christmas special have a happy ending?

ROYAL LONDON

Don't look! Downton's final secret

BY GEOFF BAKER

geoff@londonweeklynews.co.uk

Spoiler Alert for Her Majesty The Queen:

Dear Ma'am, If you are reading this, please don't – because it could ruin your Christmas Day enjoyment of your favourite TV show...

DOWNTON Abbey insiders have surreptitiously revealed how Britain's most-loved drama will "finally" [*see below] end – and it will be happily.

The aristocratic epic, which numbers The Queen among its millions of fans, is poised to climax in smiles and tears of joy as Lady Edith is reunited with her great love Bertie Pelham, who jilted her in the last episode when his new position as Marquess of Hexham made him unable to marry her because of her illegitimate daughter, Marigold.

ITV has revealed that not only will Bertie, played by Harry Haddon-Paton, be returning to Downton for the Christmas special, but that his mother Miranda, to be played by Abbey newcomer Patricia Hodge, will be taking a significant role in the final episode too.

A large part of the Christmas special has been filmed at Alnwick Castle, the seat of the Duke of Northumberland, which was visited by The Queen and the Duke of Edinburgh four years ago and which is to double up in the drama as Brancaster Castle, home of the Marquess of Hexham.

The Downton team has revealed that Bertie is back in the storyline because love's not lost between him and Lady Edith.

"If Bertie was out of Edith's life forever, as it seemed at the end of the last episode, then what is he doing back in the show?" said an insider.

"And what's more, if there isn't anything major going on,



■ ALL WILL BE REVEALED: The Downton Abbey favourites.

why is his mother now to feature strongly in the story?"

Pundits believe that heart-broken Bertie will invite Lady Edith to his home for an attempted reconciliation which is blocked by his formidable mother – but that a match is finally brokered after the acid-tongued Dowager Countess of Grantham [Maggie Smith] puts Miranda in her place.

ITV has heavily hinted that

Bertie will do the right thing and follow love over the "duty" of his position.

"Bertie has to contend with the pressures and responsibilities that befall him – but his decency is unfailing in the end," the Downton press office revealed.

It is understood that a huge party scene to celebrate Bertie and Edith's union has been filmed at The Ritz.

Echoing the feelings of the

show's millions of fans around the world, Laura Carmichael, who plays Lady Edith, said: "She deserves a happy ending, after all she's been through."

But Downton's creator Lord Fellowes is staying tight-lipped on the plans he has written for his hugely-popular characters.

"The final episode at Christmas is about resolving the show in a way that I hope is emotionally satisfying," he said.

Other storylines set to be tied off in the Christmas special, which is expected to top the festive TV ratings, are:

■ Lady Mary's new marriage to racing driver Henry Talbot turns sour as they row because he cannot accept his position at Downton, in which he feels inadequate.

■ Lady Mary strives to make it up with her sister Lady Edith, whose life she seemingly wrecked by blurring out the truth to Bertie about Marigold, and she is finally forgiven.

■ The Dowager Countess is horrified to discover that her butler Spratt is an agony aunt for Lady Edith's newspaper and demands his resignation, which Edith fights.

■ Mr and Mrs Bates have their baby.

■ The forlorn and suicidal under-butler Barrow finds happiness at last when Lady Mary and Henry find a new home and take him on as their butler, because of his friendship for her son George.

[*] But that's not all – for Downton is now set to run and run and could end up off the TV and onto the West End stage. For besides the much-discussed option of Downton The Movie, due to the TV drama's unprecedented appeal that sees it screened in 250 countries worldwide, Lord Fellowes has revealed that there could be plans for a musical.

He disclosed: "Now they are talking about a film and a musical and an opera. So who knows when it will end?"

WHERE TO SEE A ROYAL THIS WEEK

November 26

■ **The Earl of Wessex**, as Honorary Liveryman, The Worshipful Company of Haberdashers, will visit Aske's Hatcham College SE14.

■ **The Earl of Wessex**, as Honorary Chairman, The Duke of Edinburgh's International Award Foundation, Young Canadian's Challenge Charter for Business, will hold a Dinner at Buckingham Palace.

■ **The Countess of Wessex**, as Patron, Tomorrow's People, will attend the Annual Awards for Achievement, The Grange City Hotel, 8-14 Cooper's Row EC3.

■ **The Princess Royal**, as Patron, the British School of Osteopathy, will attend a Conferment and Awards Ceremony at Central Hall Westminster.

■ **The Princess Royal** will attend the 150th Anniversary Dinner of the Engineer and Logistic Staff Corps of the Royal Engineers, at One Great George Street SW1.

November 27

■ **The Princess Royal**, as Royal Patron, London Scottish Football Club, will attend a St Andrew's Day Lunch at the Savoy Hotel.

November 30

■ **The Duke of Edinburgh**, as Patron, the Club Cricket Conference, will attend the Annual Lunch at Lord's Cricket Ground, St John's Wood.

■ **Princess Alexandra**, as



■ CHARITY PATRON: Princess Alexandra.

Deputy President, British Red Cross Society, will attend the Christmas Market Preview Night at the Guildhall, Gresham Street EC2.

December 1

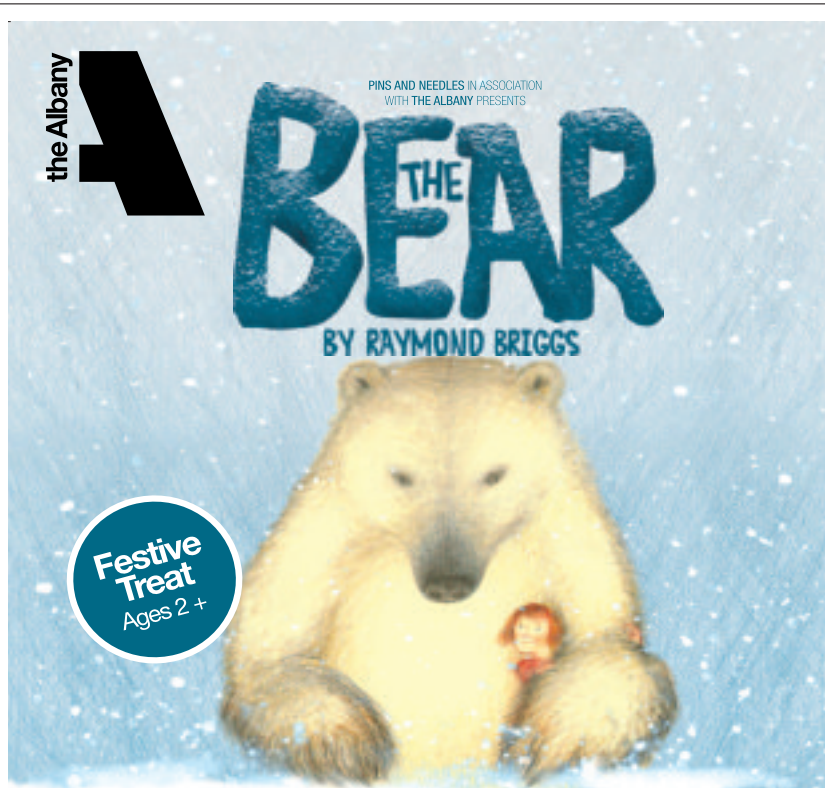
■ **The Duke of Edinburgh**, as Patron, the Outward Bound Trust, will hold a dinner to launch the 75th Anniversary Appeal, at Buckingham Palace.

■ **The Earl of Wessex**, as Trustee, The Duke of Edinburgh's Award, will attend a Christmas Dinner at St Paul's Cathedral.

■ **The Duchess of Gloucester**, as Royal President, the Children's Society, will attend an Advent Service at Lambeth Palace.

■ **The Duchess of Gloucester**, as Patron, the National Association of Decorative and Fine Arts Societies will attend a Lecture at The Queen's Gallery, Buckingham Palace Road.

■ **Princess Alexandra**, as Royal Patron, will visit the offices of Alzheimer's Society, Devon House, St Katharine's Way E1.



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Why the show must go on for rocker Rod

SHOWBIZ SPECIAL

Forever the face of fun

by Geoff Baker

WHEN Rod Stewart sang at the Festival of Remembrance a few weeks back, making co-star Pixie Lott giggle [as he would], apparently “scores” of BBC viewers phoned in to complain that it was an outrage and disrespectful.

But the story was claptrap, and any of the just three men and a cat whom I suspect were all who actually did phone in to whinge about “such shocking behaviour in the company of The Queen and Prince Philip and William and Kate” should be ashamed of themselves.

As should the reporters who covered the Royal British Legion event, because in filing the shock horror giggle line they missed the real story of the emotions that night – it wasn’t that Rod made Pixie laugh, it was that Rod made Kate cry.

Go back and have another look at the footage on BBC iPlayer, have a gander again at the video on YouTube, and you’ll see that the Duchess of Cambridge is completely welled-up after Rod ends his song *Way Back Home*. Beside her, Prince Andrew looks to be biting his lip to stop himself shedding one too.

Far from being disrespectful, Rod gave the festival at the Royal Albert Hall a highly respectful and emotional moment with the performance of the song that he wrote especially for the occasion.

In creating *Way Back Home* – a stand-out track from his superb new album *Another Country* – Rod has written the anthem for our grim times; not just a song of remembrance, but a song of British pride, the pride of which he has been both a champion and an exemplary model for all of his 50 years at the top of the music business.

There are very few artists of his stature who would dare to write such an utterly patriotic song – “and we always kept the laughter and the smile upon our face, in that good old-fashioned British way with a proud and thoughtless grace” – a lot of Rod’s contemporaries would duck that, saying that it isn’t cool, maaannn.

Fewer are they who would salute the Legion’s war veterans in a rock ballad – “and for those who sacrificed their lives for freedom and for peace I will always find my way back home” – and fewer still are the artists who would dare, as he does, to sample Winston Churchill’s “we shall never surrender” speech onto the end of it.

But then few are Rod Stewart, a Great Londoner and the very best of British.

Being that best does not just mean, as he has done, paying for D-Day veterans to return to the beaches of Normandy on the anniversaries and performing for Remembrance Day.

To be Rod-British also means having the laugh that he sings about, and nobody in rock and roll has more gloriously had a laugh than Rod Stewart.

“But you have to be able to laugh at yourself too, you just have to,” he recently told *Rolling Stone*.

Which is why, at the age of 70, he



■ PATRIOT: Rod Stewart has written an anthem for our times.

recently closed a show in Las Vegas by singing *Da Ya Think I'm Sexy* as the giant video screen behind the stage flashed up his *Rolling Stone* cover of 1977 with its strapline “I don’t want to be singing *Da Ya Think I'm Sexy* at age 50 and be a parody of myself”.

Very Rod, and as such very unlike a lot of other greats who clutter up their gigs with pretension and all manner of lavish special effects seemingly designed to insist that they are bigger than ever whilst disguising that they are not anything as young as they were.

But age does not wither Rod Stewart, there is too much twinkling, impish fun in him to be ever considered old; 70 or 17, he remains the personification of It’s Only Rock & Roll And I Am It.

“I’m not worried about it at all,” he said last year as he approached his seventh decade. “Birthdays don’t mean anything to me, they come and they go and they don’t worry me at all. Obviously, performing is not something that can go on forever, but I’m enjoying it; I’ve got the energy, the voice is in good stead and the people are still coming to see me.”

Seeing Rod Stewart in concert is an achievement on most baby boomers’ bucket list, not just for the hits that have soundtrack our lives, but for the fun of it, the lack of pomposity. Whereas some artists appear to almost demand church-like worship from their fans, forbidding drinking in the crowds or banning the enthusiastic use of

camera phones as it apparently distracts from listening to the songs, Rod lets everybody just do their thing.

“It doesn’t worry me at all. I encourage it, especially in Vegas. Some of the people who perform there have people thrown out. I do the opposite – I encourage people to come down to the stage,” he told *The New York Times*.

“We just play our music and get on with it. It’s a happy show, it’s a happy band, that’s why we’re always smiling for two hours. It’s contagious. People leave with smiles and footballs.”

The footballs are those that the soccer-mad son of Highgate, who went for trials with Brentford FC as a teenager, kicks into the crowd at every show. Although some fans have attempted to sue for the perceived injury or distress of unintentionally heading one of the 40 balls that he lobbs into the audience, most of the crowd eagerly compete to catch one, to take it home to put it on their mantelpiece as a treasured trophy.

The football spot in his show is a carry-on from his days in The Faces, that most fun-driven of all rock bands, which Rod to this day insists he would never have left to turn solo if the Stones had not pinched guitarist Ronnie Wood, his best mate and main co-writer in the band.

As anyone fortunate enough to have seen The Faces live knows, they set the bar for rock and roll fun. Fuelled by a Cockney zest for a laugh and, unlike the heavy narcotic indulgences of

rivals, a preference for swigs at the bottle of what Rod once dubbed “booze the wonder drug”, The Faces took nothing of their fame seriously.

“We used to distribute crates of liebfraumilch among the audience to get them in the mood. And then we’d invite everybody, the whole crowd, back to our hotel after the gig.”

These days most top-drawer artists would be horrified if fans even discover at which hotel they are staying, let alone wanting them to pile in, but The Faces never had that barrier between themselves and those whom they wanted to buy their records.

“We’d have loads of them up to our rooms. We’d book the whole floor of a hotel and there would be people spilling out all over the place. Nobody got hurt, we weren’t destructive, no throwing furniture out of the window. We’d do something like remove everything from one of the group’s rooms, everything, all the furniture, even the light bulbs, and send it in the elevator down to the lobby.

“Sometimes we would reconstruct a hotel room out into the corridor, shift all the furniture out there and set it up exactly like a room. People would get out of the elevator and not know what to make of it, us lot sitting around in armchairs having a drink as if we were in our room. But my days of that are

thankfully behind me. It seemed OK at the time, so frivolous and silly. We used to get so abused by hotels, and they didn’t want us there. We actually got banned by the entire Holiday Inn chain.”

Being The Faces, likely lads to a man, they soon got around that little problem.

“We used to check in saying that we were Fleetwood Mac and let them take the blame,” he told the BBC. “We’d rack up a bill and it would all go to Fleetwood Mac, the hotels didn’t know the difference because Fleetwood Mac weren’t particularly famous then and neither were we.”

But as the break-up of The Faces forced Rod to go solo, it brought fame on a level that his old band never dreamed.

Although he humbly claims to be “a pretend songwriter, I’ll come up with one line in a day, and then it might be a couple of days before I come up with the rhyming line, it’s never been easy for me”, from *Maggie May* to *The Killing Of Georgie* through to *It’s Over* and the title track of *Another Country*, he has mastered the hardest of arts, writing songs from the heart that go to the heart, a songwriter who did not provide the soundtrack for any one generation but one that has given a defining anthem for each of them.

Like the sun and the moon, it’s impossible to imagine life without Rod Stewart in it; cheekily pricking the pretensions of success and soldiering on regardless of age.

“It’s our job,” he says. “It’s what we do. It’s almost, I would say, it’s our identity and it’s very hard to give up, especially when you love what you do.”

“But I do hope I’ve got the dignity and the awareness to bow out at the right time – which is when I’m 93.”

He has sold more than 100 million records and, although he does not crow about it when other artists eagerly claim a record for audience figures at this or that gig, unknown to many is that it is actually Rod who holds the Guinness world record for performing to the biggest crowd in history – a massive 3,500,000 who came to see his New Year’s Eve show on Copacabana Beach, two million more than the crowd who saw the Stones play the same venue in Rio.

He has gold records and gongs aplenty and hopefully the Grammy Living Legend will take home another soon, when he headlines the BBC Music Awards on December 10. But oddly, one gong has to date eluded him and its glaring absence was rammed home at the Festival of Remembrance when presenter Huw Edwards twice announced him as “Mister Rod Stewart”.

Given all that he has given, from exports sales to anthems to just giving a good time, many are now of the opinion that an overdue knighthood should be Rod’s in the New Year Honours List.

“I was over the moon to get a CBE, that was unexpected,” he conceded last year. “As far as a knighthood goes, if it happens it happens. But it would be nice, wouldn’t it?”

It would indeed; nice, and deserving. For services to fun.

■ **Another Country**, the new studio album by Rod Stewart, is out now

Authentic Sardinian food, Saporì Sardi is a fine Italian restaurant located in Fulham Road.

"simple, yet fantastico!"

Adrian Seal - Restaurant reviewer for getwestlondon

Saporì Sardi is a haven of authentic Sardinian food and carefully selected Italian wines. Saporì Sardi is owned and run by husband and wife team, Plero and Gul, who have created a warm and friendly atmosphere and have been known to sit and chat with their diners over a glass of Mirto at the end of a busy day!

Plero Taris (Owner & Chef) was born in Sardinia and arrived in London in 1986, aged 26 and full of enthusiasm and passion for the unique flavours of his homeland.



Plero uses authentic products imported from Sardinia together with fresh local produce to prepare a menu that is refined and innovative whilst maintaining the strict traditions of his distinctive region. He has been cooking since he was 11, learning to bake bread from his father, Giulio, who was a Master baker in the Italian army during the 2nd World War.

Plero began working in a kitchen at 16 and was Head Chef at the age of 21 at the renowned Torre del Corsari in Costa Verde. He has taught Italian Cuisine to chefs at some of the world's finest hotels including the Sberaton Group.



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WINE & DINE

The food and
drink page for
West London

by Gemma Dunn

SIMPLICITY is key for Lorraine Pascale. "It's the way I live and the way I eat," explains the chef, discussing the essence behind her latest book, *Eating Well Made Easy*. "There's no faff - just chop it up and throw it in."

It's this understated approach to delivering uncomplicated, nutritious food that has seen the model-turned-TV-cook take the culinary world by storm. And when I turn up to play sous chef at her home in south-west London, the proof is in the pudding.

Looking far younger than her 43 years, a glowing Pascale's off-screen demeanour is as fuss-free as her recipes. Dressed in jogging bottoms and a casual T-shirt, she looks every inch the (admittedly quite glamorous) homebody - the only visible sign of her celeb status being a pair of studio lights in her kitchen, which she reveals are used to self-shoot her YouTube cooking channel.

"I've started doing it regularly; I'm full-time now and I'm focused," she says of her move into the vlogger sphere.

"I only do two one-minute videos a week because I film and edit them myself."

Model, baker, chef, mechanic (yes, really), fostering activist and now director/producer, Pascale is a one-woman band and she's marching to the beat of her own drum.

Her latest venture, she tells me (while chopping tomatoes for her take on popular Mexican dish *huevos rancheros*) is all about providing fast, easy and affordable recipes for the busy person who wants to uphold a nutritious diet.

"I'm so passionate about it. Writing healthy recipes comes really easily to me," explains Pascale, who reveals she pulled the book together in less than three months by using her familiar, classic plates and giving them a healthier twist.

Split across sections that include lazy brunches, weekday dinners and movie nights, the decadent book is designed to work for all budgets - and the best thing about



■ **KEEPING IT SIMPLE:** Model turned chef Lorraine Pascale.

Forget the faff

it is you won't have to trek to mythical heights to retrieve rare ingredients you may never use again.

"I wanted to include recipes that are easy to follow. Most of the ingredients listed you can get from Tesco, Sainsbury's or local shops.

That's what I was aiming for."

And one person she is hoping will make use of the book is her 19-year-old daughter Ella, who left for university this September.

"She's just interested in carbs at the moment," says her mum, laughing.

"I felt really guilty when I dropped her off and she was sat there eating a bowl of - overcooked - pasta. I might make some food up and take it down to her..."

In the meantime, she's thinking bigger and working on a series of quick and easy student recipes for her YouTube channel; a go-to guide for those living on a budget.

"When I was living in a model flat, it was the same story. The beginning of the month was good, but after that, it would just be pasta - apart from Friday treat night at the fish and chip shop."

Surviving - and excelling - in two of the most competitive industries, Pascale insists she has no re-

grets in forfeiting her catwalk career for the confines of a kitchen. But I wonder if her unorthodox career path had an effect on her relationship with food?

"I was genuinely not slim enough," the one-time fashion muse reveals.

"I went off the rails for a few months; some girls are naturally slim and it's fine if you're like that, but for everyone else, it's a never-ending struggle."

Open to discussing her past, as well as her day-to-day life, straight-talking Pascale has come a long way since embarking on a year-long course at Leith's School of Food and Wine in 2005; working in the world's finest restaurants, founding the hugely successful Cupcake Bakehouse in London's Covent Garden (now closed), presenting various high-profile BBC cookery shows and selling more than a million books in the UK alone - and yet is overtly honest that her domestic halo slips from time to time.

"I'm just normal. Even though I write recipes, I eat out a lot and I buy food ready to go."

"If I was to write a book like Nigel Slater's *A Year of Good Eating*, only 100 days out of 365 would be spent cooking," she says, grinning. "And 265 would be 'ate out' or 'ate a can of tuna and some sweetcorn'."

"I feel bad because I don't cook every day like Nigella [Lawson] and Nigel!"



MARK HIX'S RECIPE OF THE WEEK

Pig's trotter and green pea stew

Serves 4-6

THIS is a really hearty, winter concoction that will most certainly keep out the cold. The natural gelatine in the pig's trotters gives a delicious sticky texture to the soup.

Now you may be thinking that a soup made with pig's trotters sounds a less-than-enticing eating experience but in my opinion, you'd be quite wrong.

Just take the plunge and give it a go; your local butcher will be glad to part with a few pig's trotters I'm sure, and you can ask him to saw or chop them up, too.

Ingredients

2 large onions, peeled, halved and finely chopped
4 pig's trotters, halved
3 litres of chicken stock
A few sprigs of thyme
4 cloves of garlic
500g green split peas
Salt and freshly ground black pepper
4-5tbsp fresh white breadcrumbs
4tbsp chopped parsley

Put the onions in a saucepan (or pressure cooker) with the trotters, stock, thyme and garlic. Bring to the boil, season and simmer for 1 hour. Add the peas and continue cooking for another 45 minutes to an hour, or until the trotters are tender and the peas are soft. Remove the trotters, leave to cool a little and remove all of the meat and skin and add back to the stew, broken into chunks.

The soup should be quite thick by now as some of the peas will have fallen apart and thickened it; if not, you can blend a ladle or so in a liquidiser and add back to the pan. Transfer the stew to an oven-proof dish, mix the crumbs and parsley and scatter on top. Lightly brown under a medium grill or in the oven and serve immediately.



■ **HEARTY:** Pig's trotter and green pea stew to keep out the winter chill.



■ **WILLING SOUS CHEF:** Journalist Gemma Dunn cooking at Lorraine Pascale's south west London home.

Talk Of The Town

Music | Theatre | Reviews

Annie ****

THE classic musical *Annie* arrived at the New Wimbledon Theatre last week as part of its highly acclaimed nationwide tour.

The show stars *Strictly Come Dancing* judge Craig Revel Horwood as the orphanage owner and acrid lush Miss Hannigan in the show made famous by the 1982 film.

The story follows orphan Annie, a plucky red-headed urchin as she battles to escape the orphanage and find her parents. In a lucky twist of fate, she is taken in by the billionaire Mr Warbucks, a childless businessman who himself has risen from humble beginnings and wants to impart the same experience onto Annie.

This production had the feel of a big budget Broadway show, with the opulent jigsaw set by Colin Richmond, a full sounding orchestra and some exquisitely choreographed ensemble numbers by Nick Winston.

There were, however, some slow set changes and in places the dialogue needed more zip, particularly from Revel Horwood, whose delivery was at times lacklustre (diction, darling!).

I did also find it a shame that they had turned the washed up glamour girl, Miss Hannigan, into a pantomime dame, although Revel Horwood did show his class with some rousing vocals and he could dance a bit too!

The real stars of this show however, are always the child performers. Three teams of orphans take turns to enthral audiences with their 'hard knock' attitude during the tour and on this particular night we were treated to a performance by team Astoria.

There is something very special about the sound of a group of children singing in



■ SEE IT MY WAY: Annie receives some counselling from billionaire Mr Warbucks, above, and more advice, left, from Craig Revel Horwood as Miss Hannigan.

Children confirm star status

unison and with some mesmerising choreography, the ensemble sequences were breathtaking.

Annie, on the night in question, was played by Olivier nominated Isobel Papas. Papas attracted critical acclaim for her performance as Iris in the Royal Court's production of *The Nether* and showed in *Annie* that she is also more than

proficient at both the singing and dancing elements of musical theatre. She is undoubtedly a star of the future.

There was some great support from Jonny Fines as the lovably bad Rooster and Alex Bourne as Warbucks helped to give a comfortable and homely feel to his scenes with some wonderful vocals.

Nicky Sweetland



■ YOUTHFUL VOICE: The children are the stars in *Annie*.

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GLYPT THEATRE

Talk Of The Town

london Listings

Billy Elliot at the Victoria Palace Theatre

To December 17
Billy Elliot is a funny, heart-warming and feel-good celebration of one young boy's dream in a gripping tale of triumph over adversity. This original story captured the hearts and minds of the world when the movie was released in October 2000. Nominated for three Oscars and 13 Bafta awards, this poignant film broke box office records across the world.

Elf the musical at the Dominion Theatre

To January 2
This year's festive must-see show is going to be this heart-warming extravaganza. The show, based on the 2003 film which starred Will Ferrell in the title role, was a smash hit on Broadway and is likely to be London's hottest ticket this season, despite the much reported high ticket prices. The show stars former Girls Aloud songstress Kimberley Walsh alongside West End throb Ben Forster, who will once again play the eponymous hero after wowing audiences last year in the role in both Plymouth and Dublin.

A Christmas Evening with Stoll Veterans

December 16
Christmas music and readings in aid of Stoll, a charity providing housing and other services to disabled and homeless ex-service personnel and other people with disabilities in London. Features the Band of the Honourable Artillery Company and the Choir of St Paul's Knightsbridge, and takes place at St Paul's Knightsbridge, Wilton Place, SW1X 8SH. Tickets £25. Children under 16 are admitted free. Price includes refreshments. Tickets: 08004118881 or www.brownpapertickets.com/event/2245852

Carmen at the Royal Opera House

To November 30
Experience the power and magnetism of Bizet's most popular opera as Carmen returns to the stage at the Royal Opera House. His 17th and final opera, Carmen tells the story of Don Jose, an inexperienced young soldier seeking to marry Micaela, a girl that he knows from his home village.

The World Goes Pop at the Tate Modern

Until January 24, 2016
Over 200 works by artists from Latin America to Asia celebrates the many faces of pop art. This show isn't about the pop art you know, it's about the pop art that escaped the history books. And it certainly packs a punch. It's fun, engaging, colourful, revelatory, opinionated, racy and stunning. Most importantly the show illuminates how pop wasn't confined to Andy Warhol's Factory in New York or Richard Hamilton's studio in London – it was a phenomenon that reached much further, practiced by artists in Peru, Israel, Argentina, Japan, Brazil and Eastern Europe. In an opening gallery painted scintillating red, the

work quite literally pops off the walls. Here, traditional techniques are turned on their head, such as Japanese woodblock printing in Ushio Shinohara's 'Doll Festival' (1966) which is reinvigorated with the use of industrial materials like Perspex. Moving on, you'll find the mimicry of media and the language of mass production, the repetition of advertising strategies and consumerist logos, the appropriation of icons from popular culture, the re-evaluation of the role of women and the subversion of political symbolism.

Walt Disney's Sleigh Bells at BFI Southbank

December 12
The world premiere of the new restoration of the Walt Disney film *Sleigh Bells* (1928), featuring the first-ever Disney character, Oswald the Lucky Rabbit, a long-eared precursor to Mickey Mouse, will take place at BFI Southbank on December 12 as part of a programme It's A Disney Christmas: Seasonal Shorts, screening other festive Disney gems from the 1930s to the present day.

Cats at the London Palladium

Until January 2
Enduringly popular musical Cats will play at the London Palladium for a strictly limited run until January 2 2016. Beverley Knight is Grizabella the Glamour Cat. For more details visit the website catsthemusical.com

Carols by Candlelight

December 2
St Paul's Church, Wilton Place, Knightsbridge, Prostate Cancer UK's annual evening of carols, mince pies and mulled wine. Throughout the evening there will be readings from Dame Diana Rigg DBE, Larry Lamb, Patrick Robinson and Mark Lawrenson. Doors 7pm, concert 7.30pm. Tickets £25 and £15. Tickets available to buy online at prostatecanceruk.org/carols2015 or by telephone: 020 3310 7028

Through the Mill at London Theatre Workshop

December 1 to 19
Through the Mill – a new play by Ray Rackham featuring a hit list of Judy Garland's greatest standards will get its world premiere in a three-week season at London Theatre Workshop from Tuesday, December 1 to Saturday, December 19. For more details visit their website londontheatreworkshop.com

British Museum of Food

To January 23
Located in a building at Borough Market across two floors.

Winterville 2015

November 26 to December 23
Winterville returns to Victoria Park, East London with another packed programme of attractions, entertainment and food and drink. Built around the Winterville clock tower, this little festive town offers seasonal classics and dazzling alternatives for all ages. Entry to Winterville is free, but most events and activities require a paid-for ticket.



■ **STANDING JOKES:** Jason Byrne is in London this month.

Byrne's night guarantees comedy gold

COMEDIAN Jason Byrne has been thrilling crowds with his unique style for 20 years and will round off his autumn tour, *20 Years A Clown*, with two London dates.

The tour started in October and heads to the Leicester Square Theatre on November 27 and 28. Tickets for the shows are on sale now.

Byrne said: "I've been doing the comedy circuit for 20 years and I enjoy it more than ever. It's been great being back out on the road; this show is more energetic and more fun than ever before!"

Byrne's very own brand of organised chaos and near legendary stock-in-trade audience participation has seen him coined "the outright king of live comedy" by *The Times*. It is no surprise that he is the biggest selling comedian at the Edinburgh Fringe Festival, where he has celebrated 20 years.

In addition to his extensive touring worldwide, his Radio 2 show was awarded the UK Radio industry's prestigious Sony Radio Gold Award. Byrne has recently hosted a brand new studio based comedy chat show, Jason Byrne's *Snaptastic Show*, for TV3 in Ireland.

His TV appearance credit list includes his memorable performance at the 2013 *Royal Variety Performance*, *The Graham Norton Show*, *Live at the Apollo* on BBC1, his own show, *Anonymous in Ireland* and BBC 1's *John Bishop Christmas Show* in 2014. Tickets are priced from £17.50.

Celebration of difference

THERE'S going to be a lot of waddling and stomping at the Chelsea Theatre next week when Goblin Theatre will once again bring a very special production to the borough.

Penguin! Elephant! is a new show by the company that specialises in diverse and quality family theatre to provoke imagination. The show runs from December 1 to 24 and promises to be a treat for the whole family.

It follows Penguin, who loves fish fingers but is unwilling to share things until Elephant comes along with his big, messy, colourful life and changes everything.

With original songs, hilarious physical comedy and dance, *Penguin! Elephant!* is a magical new show about celebrating differences.

This is the third year the company has performed at the theatre and brought its popular style of funny and inventive performance – suitable for for all ages.

For more details visit the website chelseatheatre.org.uk



■ **DIVERSITY DOUBLE ACT:** Penguin! Elephant!

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and community organisations.

Email your listings to: listings@londonweeklynews.co.uk

Talk Of The Town



■ **INTRIGUING:** *Desperate Measures*, by Chris Barton and Robin Kingsland, will run at the Jermyn Street Theatre.

Musical made to measure in classic likeness

A BRAND new musical based on one of Shakespeare's "problem plays" is about to take the West End by storm – and will offer an intriguing alternative for those seeking a change to the regular pre-Christmas show.

Desperate Measures, by Chris Barton and Robin Kingsland, is based on *Measure For Measure*, Shakespeare's play which, although it is classified as one of his comedies, tackles many issues of justice and morality, making it generally a more serious and therefore less palatable play for regular theatre goers, writes Nicky Sweetland.

This means it's not performed as often as some of the bard's more famous works but for many is a much loved part of the back catalogue.

Barton not only composed the score for the production, but has also directed the piece. He explained why they chose the play to be the baseline story and said he hopes the musical will change audiences' opinions of the morality tale.

He told me: "Measure for measure is one of those Shakespeare plays that is quite difficult. It doesn't happily fit into a category. It's not quite a comedy, it's not quite a tragedy and people often don't quite get it or know what to do with it.

Robin (Kingsland) had this idea that if you could update it and give it a fair and modern rendering you could suddenly make it much more accessible to many more people."

Barton assures me that you don't need to know anything about the Shakespeare version to enjoy this new take on the classic story, with endearing characters and a modern feel.

"The idea is that it works on two levels, so if you do know the Shakespeare play you can get an extra kind of buzz out of recognising what the show is doing with the original, but if you don't know the Shakespeare play it doesn't matter at all. It completely stands up in its own right."

The new musical is set in 1600s London where a pop singer is condemned to hang under severe new morality laws. The creators have taken the fantastical premise that there has been a moral crack-down and so instead of free love and mini skirts, the government has taken laws to the other extreme and introduced the death penalty for sex outside of wedlock.

Barton explains the plot, which although set in a different time, almost perfectly reflects the original Shakespeare version.

"It centres on this pop singer who is the first person to be sentenced under this law because he's got his girlfriend pregnant and his sister just hap-

pens to be a nun. She sets about trying to persuade the zealot Prime Minister to free her brother.

"He falls head over heels in love with her – lust I suppose – and all of his hypocrisy is revealed."

The music also reflects the era, reckoned by many to be Britain's most defining decade, with influences from Motown to early rock and roll and there is a very swinging sixties feel to the show, all set within a square mile of the centre of London.

With a vibrant young cast, including Ellie Nunn, daughter

of acclaimed director Sir Trevor Nunn, the show promises to be an energetic and psychedelic treat and all staged within the wonderfully petite Jermyn Street Theatre.

Barton said: "What you're getting is a full scale musical on a tiny stage and hopefully that will be part of the vibe that people enjoy. It's only 70 seats and the stage is very narrow and we've got a company of 13 actors and three musicians so there are 16 people in that tiny space – so the choreography has been an interesting challenge."

Harry Al-Adwani and Sam

Elwin will also star alongside Angharad George-Carey, Emily-Rose Hurdiss, Alice Jay, Jojo Macari, Callum Macdonald, Charlie Merriman, Timothy Patten, Tosin Thompson, and James Wilson.

Barton said: "It's a nice thing for people to bring their families to that's thought provoking and funny, and hopefully people will go away singing the songs."

■ **Desperate Measures** will run at the Jermyn Street Theatre until December 20. For further information visit jermynstreettheatre.co.uk

Casino hosts big Bucks Fizz reunion

EUROVISION winners Bucks Fizz will reunite once again for a very special evening of celebration next year.

In 2016 the band will celebrate 35 years since winning the Eurovision Song Contest and they are inviting fans to come and celebrate this anniversary with them at Leicester Square's Hippodrome Casino on April Fool's Day.

After winning the contest in 1981 the band went on to become a household name around the world. More than 20 singles were released over the next few years, including three number ones, *My Camera Never Lies*, *Land Of Make Believe* and of course, the iconic *Making Your Mind Up*.

They sold in excess of 15 million records, spending 219 weeks in the UK charts alone. *Making Your Mind Up* went to number one in nine countries.

The band played a prestigious 30th anniversary sell-out gig at The London Palladium and are hoping the party on April 1 will be just as popular, and yes, they say they will still rip the girls' skirts off.

For more details and to book tickets visit the website hippodomecasino.com



■ **GEE FIZZ:** The celebrated Eurovision Song Contest winners are back next year.

Show us your money

THE musical *Elf*, which has begun its 10-week run in the West End, has upset some theatregoers with the high cost of its tickets.

The musical comedy's priciest ticket will cost you £240, making it the most expensive show in West End history. Here are the rest of the current top five shows by most expensive ticket prices.

2 The Book of Mormon £202.25 A satirical tale of two American Mormons who go to Uganda in an attempt to convert the locals.

3 Wicked £128 Wicked is about an unlikely friendship that forms between two girls who first meet as sorcery students at Shiz University. It has been seen by over 50 million people in 13 countries and has won over 100 international awards.

4 Beautiful: The Carole King Musical £127.50 Beautiful follows the life of chart-topping music legend Carole King and her attempts to break into the record industry as a teenager.

5 The Lion King £125, Miss Saigon £125 Based on the Disney film of a young lion who struggles against his evil uncle and grows up to take control of the pride. Now in its 17th year in London, it is one of the highest-grossing stage shows in history, having already grossed more than £4 billion globally.

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CRYSTAL PALACE FOOTBALL BOOK Hardback, published 1969. History with records and photographs from 1920-1969. £8.00 plus postage. Tel: 01728 453554

BELL & HOWELL PROJECTOR with screen and stand - Kershaw Eight 20 Camera, Yashica U8 Camera, Halina Super 8 Camera with case offers over £40. Tel 01322 463 385 / 07837 198 518

VERY GOOD CONDITION PAPERBACKS mostly thriller by Peter Patterson, Higgins, Kellerman etc. only 50 pence each. Tel: 020 8969 8709

TOM TOM XL SAT NAV UK and Ireland in excellent condition for sale £35. Car charge mount holder. Call after 6.30pm. Tel: 07448 053 148

GAS HOB brand new in box £25. Microwave £15, Sony 30" Television with remote £60. Can deliver all above. Tel: 07961 510 682

TOP OF THE RANGE ELEA MAXI COSY PUSHCHAIR All extras, VGC £30 Tel: 0208 853 2899.

RECLINING ARMCHAIR Brand new, Brown faux leather Only £95 0207 733 0623. Brixton

Christmas Trees & Decorations

CHRISTMAS TREE artificial. 150cm, slim shape, branches with individually bound twigs, looks great £10. Tel: 020 7733 1836 + 07877 818 162

Collectors Items

CASSELLS LITTLE BLACK BOOK OF MUSIC from 1890 to 2000 plus fully illustrated 900 pages, on sale £19, now £5. The Atlantic Story "What'd I Say" Fifty Years of Music by Ahmet Ertegun, 565 pages was £35 now to go £25. Tel 020 8769 0597

ROYAL ALBERT BONE CHINA England, Pixie Pink sugar bowl and milk jug. Good condition £10. No offers. Tel: 020 8858 7569

Domestic Appliances

DELONGHI ELECTRONIC CLIMATE CONTROL CONVECTOR HEATER with timer and fan, free standing or can be wall mounted. Brand new, secure system, lovely looking £30. Can deliver. Tel: 07961 510 682

Electrical

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LADIES NAVY BLUE TOP mandarin collar, button through fastening, sleeveless, brand new, size 20, £6. Tel: 020 8682 0771

Fires & Fireplaces

HORSESHOE DESIGN CAST IRON FIREPLACE fully restored and ready to fit £100. Tel: 020 8742 7687

Furniture

BISTRO OVAL TABLE & CHAIRS (2), wood effect surface, metal frame with shelf 315, s/steel shelf unit, top mid-level and bottom shelf £25. Tel: 020 8854 1903

Kitchen & Bathroom

MINI TWIN GILES & ROSNER PIE-MAKER sit on top of counter with electric plug and recipe & filling ideas included, unused, still in original packaging £18. Saled Spinner, lettuce refresher, colander, family tea pot all 3 white, together to go £10! Tel: 020 8769 0597

Pets & Livestock

CAT FOOD Natures Menu/SciencePlan for sale. Paid over £100. Approx 141 pouches. Various flavours. Selling as cat on specialist diet. £70. Possible local delivery. Call/Text: 07792 718 560

Shoes & Footwear

CLASSIC MEN'S SKI BOOTS size 9, black leather unused. Tel: 07961 724 697

LADIES GOLD LEATHER STRAPPY SANDALS flat heel, 1" leather, brand new, size 6. Tel: 020 8682 0771

Home Furnishing

BEVELLED EDGE MIRROR in gold effect frame, very nice, suit room or over fireplace, brand new £50. Tel: 020 8742 7687 or mob 07467 498 889

Wanted

NANA MOUSKOURI SONG BOOKS /music sheets, No CDs, tapes or records. Tel: 020 3583 1419

MODEL RAILWAY Items wanted by collector, good prices paid for your locos, rolling stock, All makes considered. Please call 020 8304 9180.

MODEL RAILWAY TRAINS WANTED BY COLLECTOR good prices paid for your locos and rolling stock, all makes considered, please call on 020 8304 9180

MODEL TRAINS wanted by collector, good prices paid for your locos, rolling stock, All makes considered. Please call 020 8304 9180.

RECORDS WANTED! Disco, Reggae and Caribbean music. Funk, Rock, Punk, Metal. 12" singles/LPs/7" singles (45's). Whole collections welcome. Call back available Tel: 07788 209 990

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LONDON BOROUGH OF HAMMERSMITH AND FULHAM ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 SECTION 14(1)

VARIOUS ROADS (No. 2) TEMPORARY PROHIBITION OF TRAFFIC

- The Council of the London Borough of Hammersmith and Fulham hereby gives notice that to facilitate tree pruning works on or adjacent to the roads shown in column 1 of the Schedule to this notice and to prevent the likelihood of danger to the public and damage to the highway, it made an Order the effect of which would be to prohibit vehicular and pedestrian traffic in those roads.
- Whilst works are in progress, or whilst the authorised traffic signs are displayed, no person shall cause any vehicle to proceed, stop, wait, load or unload in the sections of road shown in columns 1 and 2 of the Schedule to this notice.
- Alternative routes for diverted traffic would be available as shown in column 3 of the Schedule to this notice.
- Whilst works are in progress or whilst the authorised traffic signs are displayed no pedestrian shall proceed in the sections of footway shown in columns 1 and 2 of the Schedule to this notice.
- Whilst works are in progress or whilst the authorised traffic signs are displayed, the one way working in Bishop's Road would be suspended.
- Exemptions would be provided in the Order to permit reasonable access to premises, so far as it is practical without interference with the execution of the said work and for works vehicles, any vehicle being used in connection with police, fire or ambulance purposes and anything done with the permission or at the direction of a police constable in uniform.
- The Order will come into operation on Tuesday, 1st December 2015 and would be valid for a maximum period of 18 months or until works are completed, whichever is the sooner.
- Works would be part of a rolling programme between Tuesday, 1st December 2015 and Thursday, 7th January 2016. The dates specified are for guidance and informative purposes and works may extend outside these dates.

Dated this 4th day of November 2015

Chris Bainbridge
 Head of Transport Policy & Network Management
 Transport & Technical Services

SCHEDULE STREET TREE PRUNING - ROAD AND FOOTWAY CLOSURES Monday, 1st December 2015 until Thursday, 7th January 2016

STREET 1	EXTENT 2	DIVERSION 3
Bishop's Road	Entire length carriageway and footways	Via Filmer Road and Fulham Palace Road
Clonmel Road	Entire length carriageway and footways	Via Bishop's Road, Kelvendon Road and Fulham Road
Beaumont Crescent	Entire length carriageway and footways	Via North End Road

LONDON BOROUGH OF HAMMERSMITH AND FULHAM ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 SECTION 14(1)

(ROWAN ROAD) TEMPORARY PROHIBITION OF TRAFFIC

- The Council of the London Borough of Hammersmith and Fulham hereby gives notice that in order to facilitate the installation of a tower crane in the above named road, it made an Order the effect of which would prohibit traffic and suspend the one-way system in a section of the above named road.
- Whilst works are in progress, or whilst the authorised traffic signs are displayed, no person shall cause any vehicle to proceed, stop, wait, load or unload in a section of Rowan Road between its junction with Hammersmith Road and No. 11 Rowan Road.
- Whilst works are in progress, or whilst the authorised traffic signs are displayed the northbound one-way system shall be suspended between No. 11 and No. 31 Rowan Road.
- An alternative route for traffic in article 2 would in place via Hammersmith Road, Brook Green and Luxembourg Gardens.
- Exemptions would be provided in the Order to permit reasonable access to premises, so far as it is practical without interference with the execution of the said work and for works vehicles, any vehicle being used in connection with police, fire or ambulance purposes and anything done with the permission or at the direction of a police constable in uniform.
- The Order will come into operation on Saturday, 28th November 2015 and would be valid for a maximum period of 18 months or until works are completed, whichever is the sooner.
- Works are expected to commence on Saturday, 28th November 2015 and last for 2 days. With back up dates scheduled for the 5th or 12th December 2015. The dates specified are for guidance and informative purposes only and works may extend outside these dates.

Dated this 18th day of November 2015

Chris Bainbridge
 Head of Transport Policy & Network Management
 Transport & Technical Services

To advertise your restaurant, bar or event, please call

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Local Planning Applications London Borough of Hammersmith & Fulham

PLANNING (LISTED BUILDINGS AND CONSERVATION AREAS) ACT 1990
I give notice that applications have been made to the Council of the London Borough of Hammersmith & Fulham as follows:
FOR DEVELOPMENT WHICH MAY AFFECT THE CHARACTER OR APPEARANCE OF A CONSERVATION AREA

47 - 48 Shepherd's Bush Green

London W12 8JG 2015/05184/FUL

Change of use of the existing building from language school with ancillary accommodation (Class C2) into a hotel (Class C1); erection of part single, part two and part four storey rear extensions from lower ground to second floor levels following partial removal of the existing single storey rear extension at lower ground floor level; retention of existing infill rear extension at first floor level and erection of infill rear extension at second floor level; installation of new windows to the eastern side elevation at upper ground floor, first and second floor levels; associated excavation and landscaping of rear garden including replacement steps from lower ground floor to garden level; cycle and refuse storage within frontage.

485 Fulham Road London

SW6 1HU 2015/05334/TPO

Felling of Tree of Heaven in front garden, subject to Tree Preservation Order TPO/396/07/15 (T1).

Flat Third Floor 15 Sinclair Road

London W14 0NS 2015/05317/FUL

Erection of front and rear dormer roof extension comprising of 2no dormer windows in the front roof slope, 1no dormer window and 1no French doors with a balcony in the rear roof slope.

31 Bishop's Road London

SW6 7AA 2015/04910/FUL

Excavation of front garden and part of rear garden to form lightwells, in connection with the enlargement of the basement.

18 Admiral Court Admiral Square

Chelsea Harbour London SW10 0UU 2015/05212/FUL

Erection of an infill extension over an existing external roof terrace at fourth floor level on the corner of the south and west elevations.

146A North End Road London

W14 9PP 2015/03736/FUL

Use of premises as a 24 hour radio-controlled booking office in connection with a mini-car business (Class Sui Generis).

272 - 276 And 278 - 282

Wandsworth Bridge Road London SW6 2UA 2015/03434/FUL

Installation of 4no. Juliet balconies at first and second floor level on the rear elevations of 272 - 276 and 278 - 282 Wandsworth Bridge Road.

20 Bowerdean Street London

SW6 3TW 2015/05308/FUL

Erection of a rear roof extension; erection of a rear extension at second floor level, over part of the existing back addition; excavation of the front garden to enlarge the existing lightwell and excavation of part of the rear garden to form a lightwell, in connection with the enlargement of the existing basement.

16 Rylett Crescent London

W12 9RL 2015/05369/TPO

Fall to ground level of a tree (Acer pseudoplatanus) (T1) in the rear garden, subject to Tree Preservation Order TPO/123/4/85.

6 And 8 Auril Road London

W14 0SR 2015/05192/VAR

Variation of condition 2, 3 and 10 of planning permission ref: 2014/02017/FUL granted 19th December 2014 to include amendments to the front elevation at third floor level to replace the 2no approved dormer windows with a single enlarged dormer window, installation of 1no additional rooflight over main flat roof at roof level to both properties at 6 and 8 Auril Road; amendments to no 8 Auril Road to include repositioning of 1no window and installation of 2no additional windows to the side elevation at second floor level, repositioning of the rooflight in the side roof slope, alterations to 2no windows and installation of French doors with a Juliet balcony to replace the existing window and balcony at second floor level to the rear elevation; installation of a new extract fan over the main flat roof at roof level of no. 6 Auril Road.

Flat Ground Floor 71 Humbolt Road London W6 6QJ

2015/05293/FUL

Excavation of the front garden and part of the rear garden, in connection with the enlargement of the existing basement.

61 Richmond Way London

W14 0AS 2015/04197/FUL

Demolition of the protruding glass and aspects; Erection of two additional floors at roof level; erection of a three storey rear extension and a single storey front extension; external alterations including changes to the fenestration (REVISED DESCRIPTION)

68 Donerale Street London

SW6 6EP 2015/05302/FUL

Erection of a rear extension at second floor level over part of the existing back addition and installation of two dormer windows in the rear and side elevations; installation of French doors with a Juliet balcony in the rear roof extension to replace existing window; installation of three dormer windows in front roof slope to replace existing rooflights.

2A Lochaline Street London

W6 9SH 2015/04923/FUL

Extension of the porch and installation of new shared access gates to the front elevation; installation of a satellite dish, 3no vents and cowls at main roof level.

563 Fulham Road London

SW6 1ES 2015/05260/FUL

Material amendment to planning permission reference: 2014/01954/FUL granted on 23 of June 2014 for the "Change of use of first and second floor ancillary residential accommodation (Class C1) in connection with the creation of 4 no. self-contained residential flats (Class C3), including: Erection of an additional floor on top of main building, including erection of a single storey rear extension at third floor level on top of part of back addition; Erection of single storey extension to the rear of the back addition at first floor level, following removal of existing temporary extension; Installation of replacement windows to rear of the building at first and second floor levels; Relocation of existing restaurant kitchen extract duct to rear; relocation of rooflight on top of ground floor extension; retention of single storey rear extension at ground floor level and enlargement of the basement level".

Amendments are to erect an extension to the side of the back addition at first and second floor level; and alterations to the internal arrangements.

70 Perryemad Street London SW6 3SP

2015/05251/FUL

Erection of a front and rear roof extension; erection of a rear extension at second floor level over part of the existing back addition; erection of a single storey rear extension to the side and rear of the existing back addition; excavation of the front garden and part of the rear garden to form lightwells in connection with the enlargement of the existing basement.

13 Wendell Road London W12 9RS

2015/05325/FUL

Erection of a rear roof extension; erection of a rear extension at second floor level, on top of existing back addition; installation of two rooflights in the front roof slope.

20 Silvertown Road London W6 9NY

2015/05327/FUL

Erection of a single storey rear extension; installation of a rooflight in the front roof slope aligned with existing at second floor level.

13 Cardross Street London

W6 0BP 2015/05350/FUL

Erection of a rear roof extension with an increase in ridge height by 150mm; alteration to rear fenestration at first floor level.

Unit 29 Broadway Shopping Centre

Hammersmith Broadway London W6 9YD 2015/05344/FUL

Installation of a new shopfront.

Unit 29 Broadway Shopping Centre

Hammersmith Broadway London W6 9YD 2015/05349/ADV

Display of an internally illuminated fascia and neon signs to the front elevation and a non-illuminated projecting sign to the side elevation.

258 - 264 Goldhawk Road London

W12 9PE 2015/05349/ADV

Continued display of 1 x temporary non-illuminated banner (3.2m wide x 5.2m high), on Greenside Road elevation and continued display of 2 x temporary non-illuminated banners (3.2m x 4.5m and 2.8m x 4.5m), on Goldhawk Road Elevation.

Electricity Substation Adjacent To Wilson's Road Talgarth Road London

2015/05340/ADV

Installation of 1no internally illuminated digital led screen following the removal of existing advertisement screen fronting Talgarth Road elevation.

59 New King's Road London

SW6 4SE 2015/05179/FUL

Conversion of the first and second floor level into 2 x two bedroom self-contained flats; formation of refuse and cycle storage at ground floor level to the rear of the property.

85 - 87 Waterford Road London

SW6 2ET 2015/05030/FUL

Change of use of no. 87 Waterford Road from restaurant (Class A3) into residential (Class C3); erection of an additional floor at roof level; excavation of the front garden in connection with the creation of a new basement; installation of 2no windows at first floor level, 2no windows and a door at ground floor level to the side elevation (south eastern elevation); partial demolition of the ground and first floor rear side extension in connection with the creation of a new patio area with new window and folding doors at ground floor level, installation of new windows at first floor level to the side elevation (north western elevation); installation of new French doors and railings at second floor level to replace the existing, replacement of existing door with a window and replacement of the existing set of windows with new windows at ground floor level to the front elevation; conversion of the existing building into 3 x two bedroom self-contained flats.

98 North End Road London

W14 9EX 2015/05023/FUL

Change of use of part of the lower ground floor and upper ground floor from restaurant (Class A3) into a one bedroom self-contained flat (Class C3); erection of rear extensions at lower ground, upper ground, first and second floor level; formation of roof terraces at upper ground and first floor level, installation of French doors to replace the existing window at lower ground floor level, installation of a new window to replace the existing at upper ground floor level, installation of a new door at first floor level and the replacement of existing window with a new window to replace the existing at rear elevation; installation of a new extract duct to replace the existing at the rear of the building.

44 Sherbrooke Road London

SW6 7HU 2015/02492/FUL

Conversion of the first and second floor level to provide 1 x one bedroom and 1 x studio self-contained flats.

Maisonette B 31 Caithness Road

London W14 0JA 2015/05357/FUL

Erection of a rear roof extension involving an increase in the ridge height; installation of 2no rooflights in the front roof slope; formation of a roof terrace at third floor level to the rear elevation.

28 Kings Mall King Street London

W6 0QB 2015/03761/ADV

Display of a free standing 'A' framed Board sign on the public highway in front of the premises.

62 Fairholme Road London

W14 9JY 2015/05292/FUL

Replacement of all existing windows to front and rear elevations with double glazed timber windows; replace door to front elevation at first floor level and door to rear elevation at basement with new double glazed timber doors.

114 - 112 Hammersmith Road

London W6 7JP 2015/04268/ADV

Display of three A boards on pavement outside premises.

220 Fulham Palace Road London

W6 9NT 2015/05274/FUL

Change of use of the existing retail unit at the property from a mixed use Class A1 and A5 to Class A2 Financial services; excavation of rear garden to form a lightwell, in connection with the enlargement of the basement to create a two bedroom self contained flat at rear of basement and ground floor levels; removal of existing external staircase to rear elevation and replace with Juliette balconies at first and second floor levels.

Land North Of Westfield Shopping Centre Ariel Way London

2015/05217/RES

Submission of reserved matters relating to appearance, scale, access and layout for Phases B and C (Plot A structure and envelope) comprising 75,019 sqm of A1 floorspace, 4,285sqm of A3-A5 floorspace, 2,456 sqm of D2 leisure floorspace and 518 non-residential car parking spaces at level 60 and 63 pursuant to outline planning permission dated 13th October 2015 (ref. 2015/02565/VAR).

FOR CONSERVATION AREA CONSENT (DEMOLITION WORK) FOR LISTED BUILDING CONSENT FOR DEVELOPMENT WHICH MAY AFFECT THE SETTING OR CONTEXT OF A LISTED BUILDING

563 Fulham Road London

SW6 1ES 2015/05260/FUL

Material amendment to planning permission reference: 2014/01954/FUL granted on 23 of June 2014 for the "Change of use of first and second floor ancillary residential accommodation (Class C1) in connection with the creation of 4 no. self-contained residential flats (Class C3), including: Erection of an additional floor on top of main building, including erection of a single storey rear extension at third floor level on top of part of back addition; Erection of single storey extension to the rear of the back addition at first floor level, following removal of existing temporary extension; Installation of replacement windows to rear of the building at first and second floor levels; Relocation of existing restaurant kitchen extract duct to rear; relocation of rooflight on top of ground floor extension; retention of single storey rear extension at ground floor level and enlargement of the basement level".

Amendments are to erect an extension to the side of the back addition at first and second floor level; and alterations to the internal arrangements.

Anyone who wishes to make representations about these applications should do so by **13th December 2015**. See below for ways of commenting on applications.

THE TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING (DEVELOPMENT MANAGEMENT PROCEDURE) ORDER 2013

NOTICES UNDER REGULATION 13

Anyone who wishes to make representations about these applications should do so by **13th December 2015**. See below for ways of commenting on applications.

THE TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING (DEVELOPMENT MANAGEMENT PROCEDURE) ORDER 2013

NOTICES UNDER REGULATION 13

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Public Notices

LONDON BOROUGH OF HAMMERSMITH AND FULHAM ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 SECTION 14(1) (SHEPHERD'S BUSH ROAD) TEMPORARY PROHIBITION OF TRAFFIC

- The Council of the London Borough of Hammersmith and Fulham hereby gives notice that in order to facilitate utility installation works to be carried out in the above named road, it made an Order the effect of which would prohibit vehicular traffic in a section of the above named road.
- Whilst works are in progress, or whilst the authorised traffic signs are displayed, no person shall cause any vehicle to proceed, stop, wait, load or unload in a section of Shepherd's Bush Road between its junctions with Goldhawk Road and Miller's Way.
- An alternative route for traffic in article 2 would be in place via Glenthorne Road, Hammersmith Grove and Goldhawk Road.
- Exemptions would be provided in the Order to permit reasonable access to premises, so far as it is practical without interference with the execution of the said work and for works vehicles, any vehicle being used in connection with police, fire or ambulance purposes and anything done with the permission or at the direction of a police constable in uniform.
- The Order will come into operation on the 30th November 2015 and would be valid for a maximum period of 18 months or until works are completed, whichever is the sooner.
- Works are expected to commence on Friday 30th November 2015 and last for 1 day. The dates specified are for guidance and informative purposes only and works may extend outside these dates.

Dated this 30th day of October 2015

Chris Bainbridge

Head of Transport Policy & Network Management
Transport & Technical Services

CITY OF WESTMINSTER LICENSING LICENSING ACT 2003

Notice of application for a Premises Licence

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT EDESLA LTD (trading as Godo) has applied to the City of Westminster on 23rd of November 2015 for a new premises licence to use the premises at 90 Piccadilly Street, London W1J 7NF for: the provision of regulated entertainment and provision of late night refreshment and for the sale by retail of alcohol.

Any person who wishes to make a representation in relation to this application must give notice in writing of his/her representation by 21st December 2015 stating the grounds for making said representation to: Licensing Service, 14th Floor, City Hall, 64 Victoria Street, London, SW1.

The public register where applications are available to be viewed by members of the public can be accessed online by visiting at www.westminster.gov.uk and following the links.

The Licensing Authority must receive representations by the date given above. The Licensing Authority will have regard to any such representation in considering the application. It is an offence, under section 158 of the Licensing Act 2003, to knowingly or recklessly make a false statement in or in connection with an application for premises licence and the maximum fine on being convicted of such an offence is £5,000.

CONDITIONS OF ACCEPTANCE FOR ALL ADVERTISEMENTS

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LONDON WEEKLY NEWS

sport

Hasselbaink wanted to stop Rangers rot

BURTON Albion boss Jimmy Floyd Hasselbaink had reportedly moved to the top of QPR's wanted list as their search for a new head coach continued this week.

"As we speak, I've had no official approach from any club to ask permission to speak to our manager," said Burton chairman Ben Robinson as LWN went to press.

But his next comment bore the hallmark of a chairman resigned to losing his manager imminently, when he added: "From day one, we've always said that Jimmy was going to see Burton Albion as a stepping stone and it remains to be seen whether that comes through current vacancies, for example QPR or Fulham."

Hasselbaink, who scored 70 league goals in 136 games for Chelsea between 2000-04, took over at Burton exactly a year ago and led them to the League Two title in May. The hard-to-beat Brewers are currently a well-placed fifth in League One.

Burton are the lowest scorers in the top half of the table with only 16 goals from 17 matches but, conversely, boast the best defensive record in the third tier, having conceded a meagre 14 time.

The 43-year-old Dutchman knows there is a limit to what can be achieved with Burton's

relatively limited resources, though, and recent defeats may only hasten a move back to west London.

QPR should have kept a clean sheet at Middlesbrough on Friday but lost by the only goal in the 93rd minute when Grant Leadbitter converted a penalty awarded after Hoops' Dutch midfielder Leroy Fer needlessly stuck out his right upper arm to block a shot that keeper Robert Green, standing directly behind him, would surely have legitimately saved with his hands.

One-game ban

For his instinctive act, Fer was sent off and a one-game ban will keep him out of Saturday's home clash with Leeds United.

Apart from going close when hitting a post in the first half, promotion-chasing Boro had barely threatened, while QPR, as usual, squandered one or two good chances to score, most notably winger Matt Phillips who was used in an unfamiliar lone striking role in the absence of the injured Charlie Austin.

With interim manager Neil Warnock unable to

attend due to personal reasons, it was left to his recently appointed assistant Kevin Blackwell to face the press afterwards. He said: "Sometimes in life you don't get out what you put in and that's most certainly the case tonight. I feel for the players, because they didn't deserve to lose the game, especially in those circumstances."

"As a manager, if you come off and look the players in the eye and know they gave you everything, you can't argue."

"Everyone put in a shift, everyone ran their hearts out for the team."

"We had four, maybe five, great opportunities at the start of the second half to get our noses in front – and if we'd have done that, I've no doubt we'd have gone on to win the game."

"Sometimes when you're on a bad run, like we are at the minute, those moments go against you."

"But if the lads keep working like they did tonight, keep showing that quality that gave Boro a real going over, it'll turn for them."

"The lads are frustrated, disappointed – but they can leave with their heads held high despite the result."

"I think the club is moving forward, managerial wise," Neil Warnock told www.qpr.co.uk.



LOFTUS ROAD RANGERS REVIEW

With Tony McDonald



■ **RETURNING hero Phil Parkes, as he looks today**

"I think they will appoint someone in the not too distant future, which is good for the club."

"I came in to help Chris Ramsey and with him leaving and someone else coming in, they might not want me around the place. I think it's only fair to let them have a free run."

■ **PHIL Parkes, QPR's greatest-ever goalkeeper, will return to Loftus Road as a guest of the club on Saturday.**

The 65-year-old was unable to attend the club's recent 1975-76 reunion owing to work commitments but will be present when R's meet Leeds United in W12.

Parkes will be presented with the commemorative medals the club handed out to the stars of their best-ever side, prior to being interviewed on the pitch at half-time.

After joining the Hoops from Walsall in 1970, Parkes made 344

appearances for Rangers before moving across the capital to West Ham, where he played an identical number of matches between 1979 and 1990 and gained an FA Cup winners' medal.

The £565,000 transfer fee Hammers paid Rangers was a then world record for a keeper.

It was a travesty that his towering presence and reliability between the sticks earned him just the one senior England cap – against Portugal in Lisbon in 1974. Unfortunately, his prime years coincided with those of Peter Shilton and Ray Clemence who shared national goalkeeping duties for much of the 70s and 80s, before the emergence of another ex-QPR No.1, David Seaman.

Parkes' fellow ex-keeper Paddy Kenny will also be in attendance this weekend.

FOOTBALL FIXTURES

Saturday, November 28
FULHAM v Preston North End, 3.00
QPR v Leeds United, 3.00
Sunday, November 29
Tottenham Hotspur v CHELSEA, 12.00
Thursday, December 3
Reading v QPR, 8.00

■ **HAMMERSMITH-based fighters Dan Dan Keenan and Deano Richardson (right) have both signed professional forms with Steve Goodwin Promotions.**

Keenan, 18, and Richardson, 20, have signed three-year contracts.

The two Londoners are trained at the State of Mind gym in Hammersmith by Barry O'Connell.

They ended their amateur careers with records of 17 wins from 21 contests (Keenan) and 12 wins out of 16 (Richardson).

Goodwin was delighted with his two acquisitions, saying: "These two lads are both extremely nice kids and have immense talent."

"They have exciting styles and are destined to win titles. I appreciate that, bearing in mind their ages, they need to be brought along at the right pace and I will do that for them."

"It is also great to be working alongside Barry O'Connell, who is a fine trainer."

■ **RISING super-lightweight star Sohail Ahmad continued his charge up the rankings with a sensational**



win on the Steve Goodwin promotion at York Hall on Friday.

Ahmad, who lives in West Brompton, took just 65 seconds to blast out Duane Grimes before the referee waved a ceasefire.

It was Ahmad's seventh win as a professional – the last two both ending in technical knockouts.

The proposed British welterweight title eliminator between John O'Donnell from Shepherds Bush and Dale Evans did not take place because Evans had been offered a lucrative British title shot instead.

O'Donnell will now fight Faheem Khan from Devon on the December 5 York Hall show.

Dembele shock

■ **FULHAM'S young French striker Moussa Dembele has spoken of his shock at the terrorist atrocities in Paris.**

While coming through the Fulham academy, Dembele has been a regular for France at youth international level, featuring from every age group from the under-16s and making his debut for the under-20s this season.

He was in France with the U20s, preparing for a game against England, when the news of the Paris attacks in which 130 people died broke.

"We were watching the France-Germany game, we changed the channel and we saw it on the news," he said. "Everyone was shocked about what happened and couldn't believe it."

"Straight away I called my family to check everyone was safe. All my family live in Paris, I'm the only one who doesn't live there, but they're based about 15 minutes from the centre, so everyone was fine. No-one was in trouble."

Dembele has been impressed with how football has reacted to the events, particularly the mass singing of the French national anthem *La*



■ **MOUSSA Dembele with his Football League Young Player of the Month award for October**

Marseillaise at Wembley before last week's England-France friendly.

"All the country was devastated," said Dembele, who was born in the Pontoise suburb of the French capital. "It is very hard for us but it is life. We need to keep our heads up."

"It was good solidarity from the Football Association and the English people. They reacted well and it was kind of them to do what they did."

Dembele, who notched his ninth goal of the season at MK Dons, will lead the line against Preston at Craven Cottage on Saturday.

caught offside too many times and not in the right position.

"But he has had only three yellow cards in 17 official matches. He is not responding to provocation, everything is fine."

Mourinho admits that the three points on Saturday were deserved but, nevertheless, he felt unsure of the outcome until the final whistle.

Punched the air

"I was relieved at the end of the game," he admitted. "I punched the air. I was not nervous on the bench, I am fine, but you get disappointed with the way things go."

"After Costa scored, Kurt Zouma hit the bar. If he had not touched it, it might have gone in."

"Then, in the last minute you think, 'Oh, maybe we will score an own goal'. So I was relieved but, fundamentally, I am happy with the players. Everyone played well."



■ **JIMMY Floyd Hasselbaink appears to be QPR's cup of tea**

SPORT

Thursday, November 26th, 2015

● SPORTS DESK: 07711 169 427

Chelsea are up for Spurs test

BRANISLAV Ivanovic is confident Chelsea's woes are behind them and that proof of their upturn will be shown on Sunday when they face interim Spurs at White Hart Lane.

Chelsea have a lamentable away record in the league, their last three points on the road coming in a 3-2 victory at West Bromwich Albion back on August 23.

Since then, defeats at Everton, West Ham and Stoke City have contributed to Chelsea languishing in 15th place. Saturday's 1-0 home win over Norwich City ended a run of three successive league defeats.

The Serbia defender returned to the side against the Canaries after recovering from a hamstring injury sustained while on international duty.

When asked if Blues' opponents sense their vulnerability away from Stamford Bridge, where Chelsea have won just two out of 15, including pre-season, he said: "Yes, but this is the extra pressure that comes with being champions. From the start of this season, I have noticed teams show us more respect, they are scared of us and they think more about how

● By LWN reporter **Paul Lagan**
sport@londonweeklynews.co.uk

we are playing and what we are doing compared to other teams. This is the extra pressure that we have to deal with.

"That's one of the reasons why we didn't start well but we are starting to get points, our performances are improving. In training, we are very, very good and we are starting to show how this team can play. It's all about hard work and we will soon be back to our best."

League leaders

LWN went to press before Tuesday's Champions League encounter in Israel against Maccabi Tel-Aviv but on the horizon after Spurs are trips to new league leaders Leicester City and second-placed Manchester United, as well as Crystal Palace and fourth-placed Arsenal.

Ivanovic is relishing those matches, saying: "It is a really good opportunity for us to win away from home.



■ BACK on the goal trail, Diego Costa ended his seven-game drought Pic: Rob Newell/Digital South

We have to improve our away form.

"It's not easy but it's always better to play in front of your fans. But the team shows its strength by how we play away from home.

"The next away games

are crucial for us, because we need to have good performances like the one against Norwich.

"It comes down to team spirit again. How we play defensively is key. It's important to be together, not concede goals, because we will always get an opportunity to score at the other end due to the quality players we have. They can always create something, so we need to find the right balance between these two things. It is vital for us to do that at this stage of the season.

"If we qualify on Tuesday, the reality will be that (the last group game against Porto aside), we will have a good month to focus on the league and getting up the table.

"I don't like to think too far forward, though. We are now in a situation where we do have to go game by game."

On a personal note, Ivanovic, 31, is delighted to be

This week at STAMFORD BRIDGE



back in the side having missed the last seven matches in all competitions: "I am very happy to be back," he said. "I had a very difficult injury and was a little bit frustrated about how things were going because I was not supposed to be out for a long time.

"But the medical staff helped me a lot and it's great to be playing again. Now I can help the team on the pitch.

"Being injured was, I suppose, a bit of a positive for me – it gave me time out to work on my fitness. I wasn't rushed back. When you're injured, you have to think in your mind what is best for you at that moment. I worked a lot on the physical side and made sure I didn't lose any conditioning.

"I needed to catch up physically. It is important for me to be in my best condition for the level of games we have got coming up."

With the tide turning on the pitch, was he stung by the criticism hurled at the side from off-the-field critics?

"It's normal," he said. "We are playing for Chelsea and were champions last season, so when you start badly, like we did, it's normal to be criticised by everyone.

"People don't expect this from us, they are waiting for a reaction. They want you to be on top of your performances. I'm not just talking about myself, I mean the whole team.

"The last few games have seen the team play very well, even though there have been some bad results. But in all the games, just like we showed against Norwich, it is important we show stability, to be motivated, focused and to start getting points."

Ended drought

One man who can help more than any other player to achieve this is Diego Costa, who ended his seven-match goal drought with the 64th minute winner against Norwich.

Ivanovic knows just how influential the Brazil-born Spain striker is: "It is very important for every striker to score goals," he said. "This is what makes the difference for the team, for points, everything."

"It was a very important goal for Diego. He has been working very hard, he is doing very well in training, and he is always doing something extra. Scoring goals will make a big difference to any striker in the world.

"I hope this is just the start of what he will do and that all the work in the sessions continues to pay off in the matches to come."

Chelsea boss Jose Mourinho added: "Diego Costa scored the goal and I know for sure that with so many pundits on TV and radio, some of them are strikers and they will know the feeling. If you don't score goals, you get heavier. Every game you don't score goal, you put on five kilos, you get heavy and the pressure is there.



Focus on Craven Cottage

By TONY McDONALD

Clarke snubs Fulham offer

KIT Symons is too nice a bloke to laugh at Fulham's expense but the former Whites boss could be forgiven a wry smile at the latest chain of farcical events surrounding the club.

Just 14 days after Symons' team came from two down to thrash Steve Clarke's Reading 4-2 at Craven Cottage, Fulham decided to sack him.

Their preferred replacement was... Clarke.

They held talks with the former West Bromwich Albion manager and West Ham No.2 last week but after thinking over the switch to SW6, Clarke snubbed their offer and decided instead to stay put at Reading, who are just four points above Fulham in the Championship table and without a win in five league games.

The next day, the 52-year-old, who has been Royals' boss since December 2014, said: "It's been a strange week but I know I've made the right decision.

"I just want to get back on with the work we're doing here at Reading," added Clarke who led them to the FA Cup semi-final last season and took Royals as high as second in the league earlier in this campaign.

"It wasn't close," continued Clarke. "I got

permission from Reading to speak to Fulham, we had a chat, I came back in here the next day and I was out there on the training pitch working towards the weekend."

Clarke said he "understood" why some Reading fans would feel anger at his decision to hold discussions with Fulham.

"I'm a professional and if someone's prepared to pay a certain amount of money to speak to me about a possible job, it's something that, as a professional, I've got to look at," he said.

"I had a good conversation with Fulham and decided that what I had here was better for me at this stage."

While Fulham's search for a new manager continued, Peter Grant was appointed caretaker head coach and took charge for last Saturday's 1-1 draw at struggling Milton Keynes Dons – their first game since Symons' dismissal on November 8.

The hosts led when Josh Murphy crossed to Dean Bowditch, who drilled in a half-volleyed effort from long range.

Fulham levelled on the stroke of half-time when Moussa Dembele – named the Football League's Young Player of the Month for

October – tapped home Ross McCormack's cross to atone for a glaring miss from just a yard out earlier in the first half.

McCormack came close to giving Fulham all three points with 10 minutes left but Diego Poyet cleared his effort off the line.

Grant said: "The first half was difficult. We started OK but I could see the flaws in the team that we have. We have a lot of good players but we were giving the ball away too easily. In the second half we had more control of the game and started to cause a threat.

"Moussa had a fantastic chance to give us the lead and that would have obviously changed the game but I thought they dug in in the second half.

"We could have won it today but we could have lost it too, so, overall, I'm happy with the point."

Grant says he is not a contender for the vacant manager's position: "I was delighted to come back into the dugout but I'm only here to fill the gap for the chairman while they search for a new manager."

■ Dembele on Paris terrorist shock – page 27

■ Continued on page 27